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Dole's Iowa Victory: Wobbly Momentum

Strengthened Rivals, Buchanan And Alexander, Await Senator

By David S. Broder
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Bob Dole, a wobbly winner in Iowa, carries little momentum into next Tuesday's New Hampshire clash with a fresh tandem of opponents who threaten his path to the Republican presidential nomination that has eluded him for so long.

Senator Dole left the two men who vexed him the most in 1995 and in the early weeks of 1996 — Senator Phil Gramm and Steve Forbes, the millionaire publisher, sunk in the deep soil of Iowa on Monday night.

But his failure to win 30 percent of the vote in a state where he decisively defeated George Bush, then vice president, in 1988 forces him into what could be a tougher challenge in New Hampshire.

The ideological purity of Mr. Dole, the Senate majority leader, will be seriously questioned by Patrick J. Buchanan, the conservative commentator who exceeded expectations in Iowa with a second-place finish, only a few points behind Mr. Dole. And Lamar Alexander, the 55-year-old former governor of Tennessee, who also surged in the last few days to take third place in Iowa, will play generational politics by suggesting even more forcibly that Senator Dole, 72, cannot beat President Bill Clinton and is not the right man to be "the first president of the next century."

In New Hampshire, Mr. Buchanan will be in friendly and familiar territory, with the backing of the state's largest newspaper, the Manchester Union Leader, and a record of having won more than a third of the vote against President Bush there in 1992.

But polls indicate that more than half the state's Republicans have a

NEWS ANALYSIS

negative view of him, suggesting a ceiling on his potential support. The religious conservatives who provided much of his backing in Iowa are a less significant factor in the New Hampshire electorate.

Mr. Alexander, by contrast, has the best ratio of favorable-to-unfavorable ratings of anyone in the Republican field in New Hampshire and has built a strong organization with his heavy investment of time there. As Mr. Forbes's star fades, Mr. Alexander could well receive an infusion of support from independents, who can and often do vote in the Republican primary.

Still, Mr. Dole fought off a heavy television attack from Mr. Forbes and comes to New Hampshire with the backing of its popular governor, Steve Merrill, and an organization that may be even stronger than Mr. Alexander's.

Mr. Alexander and Mr. Buchanan need to wound Mr. Dole next Tuesday — if not defeat him — because both are dangerously short of funds for the rush of primaries in the following five weeks. Most of those primaries are in states where governors and party organizations are in Mr. Dole's corner.

Two pollsters who have been measuring the New Hampshire race, Dave Moore of the Gallup organization and Jerry Chervinsky of the Boston Globe, said Mr. Alexander might emerge in

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The Results in Iowa

The tally with 98 percent of Iowa's 2,142 precincts reported

Bob Dole	26%
Patrick J. Buchanan	23%
Lamar Alexander	18%
Steve Forbes	10%
Phil Gramm	9%
Alan Keyes	7%
Richard G. Lugar	4%
Morry Taylor	1%
Robert K. Dornan	less than 1%

Laurent Rebours/The Associated Press

A Serbian officer, wearing helmet, being led in handcuffs to a plane in Sarajevo for the trip to The Hague.

Tribunal Prods NATO To Arrest Suspects

Panel Will Provide Evidence to Help With Identification

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

THE HAGUE — The United Nations tribunal on war crimes in the former Yugoslavia said Tuesday that it was turning over all evidence in its possession, including every document and photograph, to help the NATO-led peacekeeping force in Bosnia accelerate its pursuit of indicted war criminals.

The tribunal's action signaled an intensified effort by its chief prosecutor, Richard Goldstone, to prod American and other peacekeeping troops into playing a more aggressive role in tracking down and arresting those suspected of violating the Geneva conventions banning war crimes, crimes against humanity and acts of genocide.

Admiral Leighton Smith, the U.S. commander of the 60,000-man NATO force, has been reluctant to see his troops diverted from their main mission of disengaging the three Bosnian armies. The allies fear they could be sucked into a perilous manhunt for war criminals that could antagonize local militias and lead to armed clashes.

The fear of "mission creep" has haunted international peacekeeping efforts since 1993, when a United Nations mission in Somalia altered its strategy and tried to capture the leading warlord, Mohammed Aidid. When 18 American soldiers were killed in an ambush by Mr. Aidid's men, President Bill Clinton ordered an early American pullout, and the UN mission eventually collapsed.

But NATO's role in the extradition of two Bosnian Serb officers, who were escorted to Scheveningen prison here under UN guard after arriving on a NATO flight from Sarajevo, was seen as a dramatic vindication of Mr. Goldstone's efforts to make the international force recognize that prosecution of war criminals must be a major preoccupation of the Bosnia peace process.

"This is a reminder that peace and justice must go hand in hand," said Christian Chatrier, the tribunal's spokesman. "We believe that IFOR's rules of engagement do not in any way rule out arresting a suspect identified by this tribunal." IFOR is the acronym for the NATO Implementation Force.

The two Bosnian Serb officers flown here may possess critical information about slave-labor camps and the operation of secret supply lines during the war that could implicate the highest governing circles in Serbia, UN tribunal sources said.

Mr. Chatrier said the questioning of the two officers began Tuesday and could lead to a decision whether to indict

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U.S. Tells China to Act Responsibly

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — In a hard-hitting Asia policy speech, Defense Secretary William J. Perry on Tuesday accused China of failing to fulfill its promise to become a responsible world power.

"It is time for China to start sending the right message," Mr. Perry said. "Our policy accepts China at its word when it says that it wants to become a responsible world power. But China sends quite the opposite message when it conducts missile tests and large military maneuvers off Taiwan, when it exports nuclear weapons technology or abuses human rights."

American officials warned China last week that heightened tensions linked to its military maneuvers near Taiwan could lead to "miscalculation and accident."

One official said that a show of Chinese aggression toward Taiwan "would have very grave consequences."

Beijing was also recently reported to have sold nuclear weapons equipment to Pakistan, and China has long been accused of rights violations.

Mr. Perry said at a symposium on U.S.-China-Taiwan relations that Washington's policy toward Beijing was based on "constructive engagement" because the United States could not ignore the world's most populous nation and its military might.

He urged both China and Taiwan to settle their differences peacefully. Those differences have worsened as Taiwan prepares for presidential elections and China tries to discourage talk of independence for the island, which Beijing considers a renegade province.

"The United States has tried very hard to send to China the right message," Mr. Perry said. "For example, we have reaffirmed that we have no intention of advocating or supporting a policy of two Chinas or a policy of one China, one Taiwan. Our policy is a one-China policy."

He rejected the call by some in Congress to confront Beijing, saying, "A China that feels encircled by a U.S. containment policy is quite unlikely to cooperate on U.S. vital security objectives."

Such a U.S. approach also "could push China to accelerate its military modernization," contribute to a wider arms race and even lead to open conflict, he said.

Nonetheless, he said, China must work on improving relations with Washington. "It takes two to tango," he said. *(Reuters, AP)*

Warren Buffett Offering: Cheap at $1,000 a Share

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Berkshire Hathaway, which has the most expensive shares in the world, said Tuesday that it would offer a new, lower priced share to investors. The catch is that the shares will have less in the way of voting rights and will not have the right to control how Berkshire makes corporate donations.

By Wall Street's standards, the new shares will not exactly be cheap. They will be almost equivalent to one-thirtieth of a share of existing Berkshire stock.

With the old shares closing Tuesday at $31,650, down $250, in New York Stock Exchange trading, the new shares would be worth more than $1,000. That would make them the second-most expensive shares on Wall Street.

All this is necessary because Warren E. Buffett, the man who runs Berkshire Hathaway, has an aversion to stock splits. When he took over Berkshire three decades ago, it had a stock price under $20 per share. It has been wildly successful since then, but has never had a split.

Mr. Buffett said he feared splits would encourage a more speculative class of shareholders to buy Berkshire.

The company has prospered by investing successfully in other concerns, among them Geico, an insurance company, USAir, Coca-Cola and The Washington Post, which owns half of the International Herald Tribune.

Mr. Buffett's reputation is largely based on his eye for value in the stock market. He seemed to indicate on Tuesday that he thinks Berkshire stock is no raging bargain, so existing holders will not be hurt if the company sells new stock. "If we thought Berkshire stock

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AGENDA

Metalworkers Yield to Bonn

Germany's largest union agreed Tuesday to a government proposal to overhaul the public pension system, giving up on state subsidies for early retirement.

The cornerstone of the deal is a crackdown on the widespread practice of early retirement, which companies have used as the easiest and cheapest way to lay off workers at taxpayer expense.

Under the plan, Bonn would end state-subsidized early retirement and replace it with part-time retirement with a partial pension.

IG Metall, the union, and the Gesamtmetall employers' federation are expected to search for further common ground on converting overtime into new jobs in talks scheduled for Thursday. (Page 11)

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Dow Jones	Trib Index
Up 1.08	Up 0.28%
5601.23	135.87

The Dollar

New York,	Tues. close	previous close
DM	1.4733	1.4782
Pound	1.5373	1.529
Yen	108.785	108.85
FF	5.0715	5.075

Martin Balsam Dies, Actor Won '65 Oscar

Martin Balsam, 76, the Oscar-winning American actor whose film credits include "On the Waterfront" and "Twelve Angry Men," died Tuesday, apparently of a heart attack, in a hotel in Rome. Mr. Balsam won an Academy Award in 1965 for best supporting actor in the film "A Thousand Clowns." (Page 7.)

Backstage at the Royal Opera, a Real-Life 'Soap'

By Sarah Lyall
New York Times Service

LONDON — Most opera and ballet goers probably suspect that people in the performing arts are touchy, tense and arrogant, and that putting together a season's worth of world-class productions is much harder than it looks.

But if there were any lingering illusions about the inner workings of stately Covent Garden, they have been wholly shattered in the last few weeks.

In an extraordinarily detailed weekly documentary series made after a year of fly-on-the-wall filming, the BBC has presented life at the opera house as a grand operatic comedy, with an enormous backstage cast of squabbling, backstabbing prima donnas whose lives of chaos and internecine warfare are worthy of the most complicated libretto.

While the public has been treated to accounts of productions that almost didn't come off, of top artists losing their voices or dancing themselves into the operating room, and of boardroom free-for-alls over budgets, the critics have been divided on whether the six-part series, which runs through Feb. 20, will turn out to be a public relations coup or a public relations disaster for the organization.

The Royal Opera is at an important juncture. Covent Garden, its home, is scheduled to close in September 1997 for at least two years of renovations, and the opera does not yet know where it will go during that time. It is also battling accusations that it is an elitist organization and defending itself against critics who argue that it does not deserve its hefty handouts from the British government and the National Lottery.

Against that backdrop, viewers have watched, open-mouthed, as "The House" unfolds on the BBC. Magali Damonte flies in from Paris to sing the title role in "Carmen" when the scheduled mezzo-soprano, Denyce Graves, suddenly loses her voice. Nobody seems to know who Ms. Damonte is, and there is grumbling when it emerges that she doesn't speak English.

The camera also captures Darcy Bussell, the Royal Ballet's prima ballerina, repeatedly slipping and falling on Maria Bjornson's newly installed "Sleeping Beauty" stage, a triumph of design that cost tens of thousands of dollars to build but was too well polished to use.

It shows a young male dancer removing his shoes to reveal hideously swollen, bloodied toes, and it describes the peculiar feud between the two bartenders in the house's main bar who, after 30 years on the job, are no longer on speaking terms.

Meanwhile, Keith Cooper, the house's tough corporate affairs director, fires the manager of the box office, right on camera.

At a meeting, board members scream at the director-general, Jeremy Isaacs, about cost overruns, and Sir James Spooner, chairman of the opera board, becomes apoplectic at the news that the director Trevor Nunn has exceeded his budget for a new set that features rain and a pair of live horses. Mr. Nunn and other "grand people," he fumes, are "bastards."

It is highly entertaining, but many critics feel that the series has cast the opera house in a decidedly unflattering light.

"There seems to be a general con-

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Newsstand Prices

Bahrain	1.000 Din	Malta	45 c.
Cyprus	C. £ 1.00	Nigeria	125.00 Naira
Denmark	14.00 D.Kr.	Oman	1.250 Rials
Finland	12.00 F.M.	Qatar	10.00 Rials
Gibraltar	£ 0.85	Rep. Ireland	IR£ 1.00
Great Britain	£ 0.90	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R
Egypt	£E 5	S. Africa	R10 + VAT
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Kenya	K. Sh. 150	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$ 1.20
Kuwait	600 Fils	Zimbabwe	Zim.$20.00

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Reuters

Sung Hae Rim, now in hiding, in happier times some decades ago.

Is Ex-Mrs. Great Leader Of North Korea Defecting?

By Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service

TOKYO — If North Korea's "Great Leader" did not have enough problems with hunger spreading throughout the world's last Stalinist state, his former wife was reported Tuesday to be in hiding and apparently planning to defect to the West.

The defection of Sung Hae Rim would be a psychological blow to North Korea.

Since the nation's news media fulminate whenever a third secretary in a distant embassy defects, the government's inability to maintain the loyalty of its leader's former wife would be an incalculable humiliation. The South Korean government said Tuesday night that Miss Sung was in hiding after disappearing while on a vacation in a Swiss villa.

Intelligence officials would not quite confirm it, but they left a strong impression that they know of Miss Sung's whereabouts and that she is being looked after by a Western intelligence agency.

"Sung Hae Rim and her sister and others are in hiding, but we fear for their safety now that this fact has been released to the public," an official of South Korea's National Security

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Low Divorce Rate / **Unhappy Marriages Are Common**

In Japan, Family, Not Love, Comes First

By Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service

OMIYA, Japan — Yuri Uemura sat on the straw tatami mat of her living room and chatted cheerfully about her 40-year marriage to a man whom, she mused, she never particularly liked.

"There was never any love between me and my husband," she said, recalling how he used to beat her. "But, well, we survived."

A 72-year-old midwife, Mrs. Uemura said her husband had never told her that he liked her, never complimented her on a meal, never told her "thank you," never held her hand, never given her a present, never shown her affection in any way. He never calls her by her name, but summons her with the equivalent of a grunt or a "Hey, you."

"Even with animals, the males cooperate to bring the females some food," Mrs. Uemura said sadly. "When I see that, it brings tears to my eyes."

In short, the Uemuras have a marriage that is as durable as it is unhappy, an example of the sanctity given to the family in Japan.

The divorce rate in Japan is at a record high but still less than half that of the United States, and Japan arguably has one of the strongest family structures in the industrialized world. As the United States and Europe fret about the disintegration of the traditional family, most Japanese families remain strong.

There are about 24 divorces for every 100 marriages in Japan. That compares with 32 in France, 42 in England, and 55 in the United States.

A study published last year by the Population Council, an international nonprofit group based in New York, suggested that the traditional two parent household is declining not only in the United States but also throughout most of the world. There was one prominent exception: Japan.

In Japan, only 1.1 percent of births are to unwed mothers, a figure virtually unchanged from 25 years ago. In the United States, the figure is 30.1 percent and rising.

Yet if one comes to a town like Omiya to learn the secrets of the Japanese family, the people are not as happy as the statistics.

"I haven't lived for myself," Mrs. Uemura said, with a touch of melancholy, "but for my kids, and for my family, and for society."

Mrs. Uemura's marriage does not seem exceptional in Japan, whether in the big cities or here in Omiya. The people of Omiya, a community of 5,700 nearly 320 kilometers (200 miles) southwest of Tokyo, have spoken periodically to a reporter about various aspects of their daily lives. On this visit they talked about their families.

Osamu Torida, a cattle farmer, looked perplexed when asked if he loved his wife of 33 years. "Yeah, so-so, I guess," he said. "She's like air or water. You couldn't live without it, but most of the time, you're not conscious of its existence."

The secret to the survival of the marriage, Mr. Torida acknowledged, was not mutual passion.

"Sure, we had fights about our work," he said. "But we were preoccupied by work and our debts, so we had no time to fool around."

That is a common theme in Omiya, where love marriages are the exception, not the rule.

"I think love marriages are more fragile than arranged marriages," said Tomika Kusukawa, 49, who married her high school sweetheart and now runs a car repair shop with him. "In love marriages, when something happens or if the couple falls out of love, they split up."

If there is a secret to the strength of the Japanese family it consists of low expectations, patience and shame.

The advantage of marriages based on low expectations is that they have built-in shock absorbers. If the couple discovers that they have nothing in common, that they do not even like each other, then that is not so much a reason for divorce as it is par for the course.

Even the discovery that one's spouse is having an affair is often not as traumatic in Japan as it is in the United States. A little sexual infidelity on the part of a man (though not on the part of his wife) was traditionally tolerated, so long as he did not become so besotted as to pay his mistress more than he could afford.

Tsuzuya Fukuyama, who runs a convenience store and will mark her 50th wedding anniversary this year, said a woman would be wrong to get angry if her husband had an affair. "It's never just one side that's at fault," she said.

Mrs. Fukuyama's daughter came to her a few years ago, suspecting that her husband was having an affair and asking what to do.

"I told her, 'Once you left this house, you can only come back if you divorce; if you're not prepared to get a divorce, then you'd better be patient,'" Mrs. Fukuyama recalled. "And so she was patient. And then she got pregnant and had a kid, and now they're close again."

The word that Mrs. Fukuyama used for patience is "*gaman*," a term that comes up whenever marriage is discussed here. It means toughing it out, and many regard gaman with pride as a national trait.

Many people complain that younger folks divorce because they do not have enough gaman.

By international standards, Japanese couples are exceptionally incompatible.

One survey asked married men and their wives in 37 countries how they felt about politics, sex, religion, ethics and social issues. Japanese couples ranked last in compatibility of views, by a huge margin. Indeed, another survey found that if they were doing it over again, only about one-third of Japanese would marry the same person. But incompatibility might not matter so much, because Japanese husbands and wives spend very little time talking to each other.

"I kind of feel there's nothing new to say to her," said Masayuki Ogita, an egg farmer, explaining his reticence.

In a small town like Omiya, couples usually have dinner together, but in Japanese cities there are many "7-11 husbands," so called because they leave at 7 A.M. and return after 11 P.M.

A national survey found that 30 percent of fathers spend less than 15 minutes a day on weekdays talking with or playing with their children. Among eighth graders, 51 percent reported that they never spoke with their fathers on weekdays.

As a result, the figures in Japan for single parent households can be deceptive. The father is often more a theoretical presence than a reality.

Still, there has been a gradual change in focus of people's lives from work to family. Two decades ago, nearly half of young people said in surveys that they wanted their fathers to put priority on work rather than family. Now only one-quarter say that.

For those who find themselves desperately unhappy, one source of pressure to keep plugging is shame. "If you divorce, you lose face in society," said Tatsumi Kinoshita, a tea farmer. "People say, 'His wife escaped.' So folks remain married because they hate to be gossiped about."

Traditionally, many companies were reluctant to promote employees who had divorced or who had major problems at home.

"If you divorce, it weakens your position at work," said Akihiko Kanda, 27, who works in a local government office. "Your bosses won't give you such good ratings, and it'll always be a negative factor."

Financial sanctions are also a major disincentive for divorce. The mother gets the children in three-quarters of divorces, but most mothers in Japan do not have careers and have few financial resources.

Fathers pay child support in only 15 percent of all divorces with children.

But society is changing. The nuclear family has replaced the extended family. Divorce rates are rising, doubling in the last 25 years.

Nicholas D. Kristof/The New York Times

For Yuri Uemura, 72, a housewife, happiness and love are not key elements of a durable marriage. "There was never any love between me and my husband," she said. "But, well, we survived."

COMING UP

With Sudan's economy in a shambles, its foreign relations in crisis, and the country hobbled by a costly civil war, the question in Khartoum is whether these hardships will be enough to persuade the military Islamic regime to reconsider its ways.

Zaire Opens New Drive To Dislodge Refugees

New York Times Service

NAIROBI — Zairian troops surrounded a large camp of Rwandan refugees Tuesday, signaling the beginning of what United Nations officials described as an intensive campaign to persuade 190,000 Hutu refugees from Rwanda to return home.

A force of about 250 soldiers from a border-patrol unit known as the Civil Guard surrounded the sprawling eight-kilometer-long (five-mile-long) camp at 6 A.M., officials said. They said the refugees looked on calmly as the soldiers took their positions.

"Everything is calm," said Peter Kessler, a spokesman for the UN refugee commission. "The refugees are watching the operation. We would hope that some refugees that feel willing would begin to walk toward the frontier."

The presence of the troops did not persuade many refugees to leave Tuesday, however.

All day long, most clung defiantly to their makeshift huts, waiting for the army's next move. By the end of the day, only 55 people had chosen to board buses and return to Rwanda, UN officials said. There were no incidents of violence reported, though the mood in the camps remained tense and watchful, they said.

The ringing of the camp was part of a new effort by Zaire to empty the 40 Rwandan refugee camps on its soil by cutting them off from the surrounding community. The scheme was agreed to in late December at a meeting in Geneva between Zaire, the United Nations and officials from the Tutsi-led government in Rwanda.

The camp surrounded Tuesday is one of five near the town of Goma. It is built on an inhospitable plain of volcanic rock less than two kilometers from the Rwandan border.

The troops are intended to impose what amounts to an economic embargo, keeping refugees from trading in Goma and limiting the aid they receive to the bare essentials — food, water and medical supplies.

Zaire has promised the United Nations that no force would be used against the refugees and that only volunteers would be escorted to the border.

The idea, they say, is to make life uncomfortable in the camps, where in the past the refugees have been able to supplement their meager food supplies by working or trading in surrounding communities.

But there is a danger that the operation could turn violent if Hutu militias in the camps decide to resist the embargo or if the Zairian commanders lose control over their poorly paid and undertrained troops, Western relief officials say.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Film Park for Britain

LONDON (Reuters) — The U.S. entertainment giant Time Warner and the British broadcaster MAI announced plans Tuesday for a $344 million movie theme park and studio in Britain that should give a further boost to the reviving British film industry.

The 50-50 joint venture, to be built on a 150-acre (60-hectare) site to the west of London, is to open for the 1999 tourist season. The theme park, which will celebrate British filmmaking, will be open from April to October.

It is expected to attract about 2 million visitors a year, while the year-round, 6,000-square-yard studio will provide much-needed facilities for British filmmakers.

France to Revise TGV

PARIS (Reuters) — The rail line that carries France's high-speed TGV trains between Paris and Lyon needs repairs, and the trains will run a bit slower for the next 10 years.

The two-hour, 450-kilometer (280-mile) trip will take an extra four minutes while work to upgrade the line is carried out over the next decade, the state railroad, SNCF, said Tuesday.

New Manila Rail Line

MANILA (AP) — President Fidel Ramos attended the groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday for a $600 million train line that officials hope will ease Manila's traffic jams.

The 100-kilometer (60-mile) North Luzon Rapid Rail System will run from Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport to the site of the former U.S. Clark Air Base in Pampanga Province, which is being developed as an industrial zone.

Fahd Returns, Presiding Over Saudi Cabinet

Reuters

DUBAI — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia presided over a cabinet meeting on Tuesday for the first time since falling ill in November.

The official Saudi Press Agency, reporting the weekly cabinet session, said he also received Saudi princes and sheikhs at the Safa palace in Mecca on Monday night.

King Fahd, 74, flew to Mecca from Riyadh last Wednesday on his first trip outside the capital since he suffered a stroke on Nov. 29.

The king traditionally spends the last 10 days of the Muslim month of Ramadan, which is due to end around Feb. 20, in the kingdom's holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

On Jan. 1, King Fahd handed over the affairs of state to his half-brother and heir apparent, Crown Prince Abdullah ibn Abdulaziz, while he recuperated from his stroke.

Saudi officials made clear at the time that he had not abdicated, and the appointment of a new Saudi finance and economy minister, Ibrahim Assaf, last month was made in King Fahd's name.

It was not clear whether the king's presence at the cabinet meeting represented a full resumption of his duties.

Saudi state television said the monarch met dozens of princes, ministers and other dignitaries in what sources in the kingdom described as a display of loyalty.

The sources said the television unusually referred to King Fahd, who came to power in 1982 on the death of his half-brother King Khaled, as king and prime minister.

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Czechs, Now 'Naively' Seeking Direction, See Dangers in Cults

By Randi Druzin
Special to the IHT

PRAGUE — Six years after the collapse of communism, the Czech people are braving the ups and downs of life in a democracy. Increasingly adrift and searching for direction, they are turning to cults and marginal religious groups.

Though he had a lucrative job with the Czech government, Petr Konecny said he was miserable. He and his wife, Ivana, felt their lives lacked meaning. So, in April 1993 the couple abandoned their comfortable lives and, with their two teenaged children, joined a sect through which they could improve themselves and "do some good for the world."

Nine months later, Mr. Konecny was gravely ill, impoverished and on the brink of mental collapse. He had been kicked out of the sect, having been deemed "unclean" by its leader, and had been spurned by his own family. His wife and children were eventually kicked out of the cult as well. And, like Mr. Konecny, they suffered severe withdrawal symptoms.

"This cult is deadly dangerous," says Mr. Konecny, who now works in the administrative offices of a Czech construction company. "It almost cost us our lives."

Others agree. Zdenek Vojtisek of the Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Directions, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to gather and disseminate information on sects and new religious groups in the Czech Republic, is concerned that certain segments of Czech society are "in danger of being swallowed by cults."

"People here have no religious background, and cannot determine right from wrong," he said. "Today, Czechs are as naive as Americans were before Charles Manson. The situation is a time bomb."

Getting the lion's share of media attention are extreme sects like Messengers of the Holy Grail, the Czech cult that attracted the Konecny family.

Its leader, Jan Dvorsky, 31, has convinced his followers that he is the Messiah, destined to deliver them from a world corrupted by evildoers who have been reincarnated several times over. Like many other self-proclaimed messiahs, Mr. Dvorsky warns of a pending apocalypse.

The cult included only about a hundred members two years ago, and even fewer now. Mr. Dvorsky decamped from his base in western Bohemia, and is running from authorities who want to arrest him on charges that he is keeping his young children from school.

The police consider the cult to be extremely dangerous. Although their leader had fled, members remain devoted to him.

His book, "Son of Human," which was published in 1993, damns not only his mother-in-law, but also public figures like President Vaclav Havel and Pope John Paul II.

Mr. Dvorsky's influence over his followers is so profound that 10 of them tried to kill themselves when, like Mr. Konecny, they were banished from the cult. Mr. Dvorsky has assured them that they would be resurrected at the end of the century when a "new kingdom" would arise to replace present-day society.

Like Mr. Konecny, many people donated their life savings to the cult.

"We wanted to do some good, and the cult provided us with a sense of unity with the world," Mr. Konecny said. "We thought that the world was out of joint, and that we could improve it. We were very arrogant in this way. We were too idealistic."

The unorthodox religions are not necessarily interested in helping others. "An individual should care only about himself," said Jiri Valter, founder of the Church of Satan in the Czech Republic.

The Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Directions claims that there have been one homicide and one suicide connected to Satanists.

A spokesman, Zdenek Vojtisek, says that a sacrificial altar was found in north Bohemia in 1994.

Dr. Prokop Remes of the Psychiatric Clinic-Prague Bohnice has treated former members of Mr. Dvorsky's cult, a handful of whom attempted suicide. He offered an explanation of why cults and marginal religious groups are becoming popular:

"Czechs were, for a long time, used to some sort of leadership. First it was the Nazi occupation, then the Communist regime. Now that they have embraced a Western lifestyle, their lives are chaotic and they are depressed. They are searching for guidance. That is why they are joining various sects."

This trend, he said, "comes from the West. It started in America, spread through Western Europe and is moving further east. It is connected to the opening of borders, and the fact that it is now possible for these groups to exist legally."

Groups like Messengers of the Holy Grail and the Church of Satan have become a cause célèbre in the Czech press, but there are other, less extreme religious groups that have emerged here.

Czechs have recently been introduced to groups long established in the West. Included among these are Hare Krishna, Jehovah's Witnesses and the Unification Church, whose members are followers of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

The Unification Church came to this country during the 1968 Prague Spring, a brief period in which Czechoslovak citizens enjoyed an easing of Soviet control. When Soviet tanks rumbled into Prague, however, Unification Church members went underground until 1990.

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THE AMERICAS

Dole and Buchanan a Close One, Two in Iowa

By Dan Balz
and Edward Walsh
Washington Post Service

DES MOINES, Iowa — Bob Dole, the Senate majority leader, narrowly won the Iowa caucuses after fending off an unexpectedly strong challenge from the commentator Patrick J. Buchanan.

Lamar Alexander, the former governor of Tennessee, finished third.

Senator Dole took the first step toward claiming the Republican presidential nomination that has twice eluded him.

But his victory margin Monday night was pallid in comparison with his victory here in 1988, and he faces another strong challenge Tuesday in New Hampshire, the state that buried his presidential aspirations the last time he ran.

"Tonight was the first big step in our road to returning conservative common sense to the White House," Senator Dole told supporters chanting "Dole '96, Dole '96" at a victory rally.

According to surveys, Senator Dole received crucial backing from elderly voters and those who place a high value on Washington experience.

But the big surprises were the strong showing of Mr. Buchanan, who rode a wave of support from religious conservatives, anti-abortion activists and lower-income voters, and the fourth-place finish of Steve Forbes, the magazine publisher who, until a week ago, seemed ready to challenge Mr. Dole for the top spot.

With 98 percent of the state's 2,142 precincts reporting, Mr. Dole had 26 percent, Mr. Buchanan 23 percent, Mr. Alexander 18 percent, Mr. Forbes 10 percent, and Senator Phil Gramm 9 percent.

An ebullient Mr. Buchanan emerged with bragging rights. Calling himself a "political stranger" in Iowa less than a year ago, Mr. Buchanan now was able to say, "The victory is tremendous, friends, and now we are going to win this nomination."

He built his second-place finish on economic populism and social-issue conservatism.

"This is a victory for a cause that is larger than all of us," he announced. "This is a victory for a new idea in the Republican Party and in national politics, a new, spirited conservatism of the heart."

Mr. Alexander, whose slow-and-steady approach here finally began to pay dividends in the final week of the campaign, also made himself a force. He appeared to benefit significantly from a voter backlash against the heavily negative television advertising campaign waged by Mr. Forbes.

His third-place finish was aided significantly by voters who said they believed he had the best chance to defeat President Bill Clinton in November.

Speaking to supporters after the caucuses, Mr. Alexander said Iowa voters had validated his campaign. In soundly defeating Mr. Forbes, Mr. Alexander sought to take for himself the mantle of "outsider" that also has been part of the Forbes appeal.

Mr. Forbes, who had climbed to second in the polls here on the basis of his anti-Washington, pro-flat tax message, saw his campaign fall into a tailspin in the last 10 days. He now must re-energize his campaign with a strong showing in New Hampshire, where he has been challenging Mr. Dole for first place and where his flat-tax proposal is more popular.

Senator Gramm, once regarded by some as Mr. Dole's strongest potential challenger, took another drubbing, after his defeat by Mr. Buchanan in Louisiana.

The Gramm campaign now appears to be on life support as it heads toward New Hampshire, where the Texas senator has struggled from the beginning of his candidacy.

Alan Keyes, Senator Richard G. Lugar, Representative Robert K. Dornan and Maurice Taylor rounded out the field of candidates competing here. Mr. Keyes attracted 7 percent of the votes, Senator Lugar 4 percent, Mr. Taylor 1 percent and Mr. Dornan even less than 1 percent.

Brian Kennedy, Iowa's Republican Party chairman, said predictably that, despite the narrow margin, Mr. Dole had emerged from the caucuses in good shape.

"If you want to look at '88, Dole's campaign fell apart when he got hit," Mr. Kennedy said. "This time he got hit, kept it together and won the race."

Mr. Dole's campaign manager, Scott Reed, said the victory in the face of a multimillion-dollar negative advertising campaign waged by Mr. Forbes proved Mr. Dole's durability.

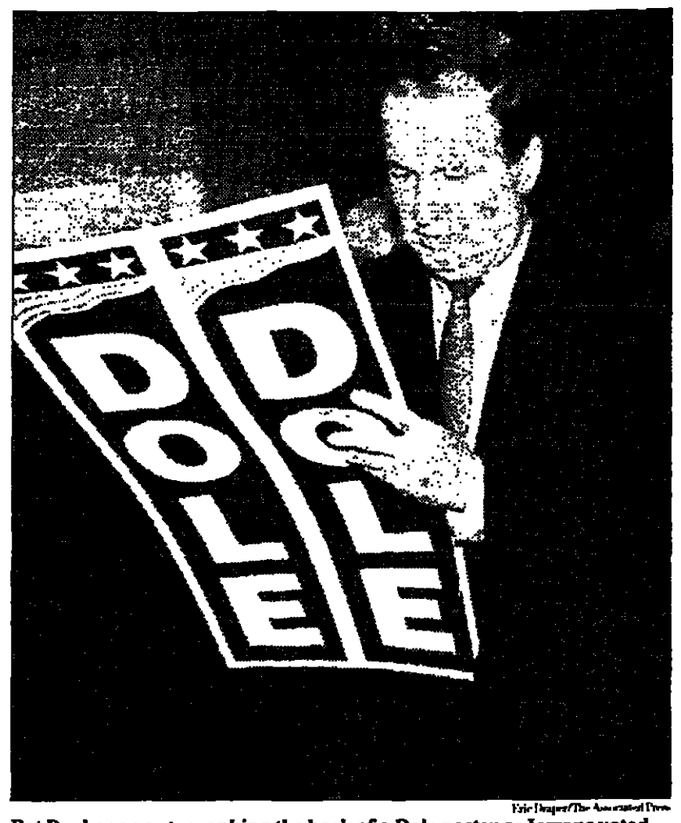
Mr. Reed called the Republican contest "a two-man race with Pat Buchanan," predicting that Mr. Forbes's support in New Hampshire would erode rapidly and that Mr. Alexander would not have the resources to wage a protracted battle for the nomination.

Mr. Alexander took issue with that and said the caucuses had validated his message that the party was looking for an alternative to Mr. Dole who had the capacity to defeat Mr. Clinton in the fall.

He took aim at Mr. Buchanan's message of economic nationalism. "Pat's message is wrong for our party and wrong for our country and therefore he shouldn't be our nominee."

Iowa Republicans cast their votes in what is the first step toward choosing the state's delegates to the Republican convention in San Diego in August.

After the relentlessly negative campaign, turnout fell far short of predictions, with slightly fewer than 100,000 people participating.



Eric Draper/The Associated Press

Pat Buchanan autographing the back of a Dole poster as Iowans voted.

POLITICAL NOTES

Dole Victorious Even Before Vote

NEW YORK — In a striking confluence of old-fashioned democracy and computer-age data gathering, Senator Bob Dole was declared the winner of the Iowa caucuses five minutes before they began.

The Kansas Republican was called the winner at 6:55 P.M. by Voter News Service, a consortium of the three big television broadcasting networks, CNN and The Associated Press. The prediction was based on polling of about 3,800 Iowans as they entered the caucuses, Voter News Service officials said Monday night.

Asked if she had any concerns that some of the news service's 100 or so subscribers might go public with the prediction before the caucuses officially began, one official, Lee C. Shapiro, said, "I would assume they would use it straight up on the hour, not before."

And indeed, the embargo was honored, Voter News Service's editorial director, Murray Edelman, said Monday night.

Voter News Service transmits its predictions on primary election nights with the understanding that subscribers will not use them before the polls close, Ms. Shapiro said. In the case of the Iowa precinct caucuses, the assumption is that subscribers will not publicize the predictions until the caucus-goers are in the house or firehouse where they are to vote— presumably free from the contamination of news reports.

It has become the practice of television networks in recent years not to project the winner of a race in areas where the polls are still open, on the assumption that premature predictions might influence voters to one candidate or another, or simply cause them to stay home. *(NYT)*

No Kansas Primary: It's Too Predictable

TOPEKA, Kansas — Kansas has bowed out of the primary business for 1996. Everyone knew who would have won.

"Any time I can save the state $1.4 million with the stroke of a pen, I am only too happy to oblige," said Governor Bill Graves after signing a bill canceling Kansas' presidential preference primary for this year.

It was perfectly obvious that the native son, Senator Bob Dole, and the uncontested Democratic president, Bill Clinton, would have won.

"In this particular election year, in this state, this election would have resulted in an unwarranted expense of taxpayer money to simply ratify what's expected to be a foregone conclusion in terms of the two major party nominees," Mr. Graves said Monday.

The primary would have been held April 2. *(AP)*

Affirmative Action Is California Target

BURLINGAME, California — With a week to go before their Feb. 21 filing deadline, proponents of an initiative proposal to roll back affirmative action laws in California say they have far more than the 694,000 signatures needed to qualify the measure for this November's ballot.

That is a substantially different outlook than supporters reported barely two months ago.

In December, even after raising more than $500,000, the campaign was forced to halt signature-gathering for three weeks because it had run out of money to pay the workers. At the time, the so-called California Civil Rights Initiative was far behind schedule for reaching the signature goal by the Feb. 21 deadline.

To the rescue came Governor Pete Wilson, a prominent foe of programs that seek to help minorities by establishing quotas for them in business and education, who organized a blitz of money-raising. *(LAT)*

Quote/Unquote:

Senator Bob Dole, celebrating victory in Iowa: "Tonight was the first big step on our road to return conservative common sense to the White House. I hope we'll celebrate another victory and another victory and another victory." *(Reuters)*

Away From Politics

• **The Virginia legislature has approved a law** to prevent insurance companies from routinely forcing new mothers to leave the hospital 24 hours after giving birth. *(WP)*

• **A chef fired from the U.S. Military Academy** in 1994 for taking less than $20 worth of leftover food has returned to work after a review board ordered him reinstated. Early Skates, a decorated Vietnam veteran, had worked at West Point for 17 years. *(AP)*

• **Anti-tobacco groups have created** the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids to sponsor and coordinate efforts to stop children from smoking, sniffing and chewing tobacco. *(NYT)*

• **Secret Service agents arrested two coin dealers** in New York for trying to sell a gold coin so rare it is illegal to own. The men wanted $1.5 million for the Augustus Saint-Gaudens double eagle $20 coin. The Philadelphia Mint produced 445,500 of the coins in 1933, but the United States went off the gold standard that year and they were never put into circulation. Most were melted into bullion, but several were stolen. *(AP)*

In Iowa Farmhouse, Gossip, Pitches and a Vote

By Marc Fisher
Washington Post Service

BONDURANT, Iowa — Sixty Americans filed into the living room of Don and Irene Newby's farmhouse on Monday night, ready to meet their neighbors, catch up on local gossip and practice a bit of democracy.

"The poll tax is five bucks," Don Newby said jokingly as voters filed in and set up folding chairs for the caucus. "That's for the coffee and cookies."

There was chat about the incursion of suburbia ("We're starting to get close neighbors," said Vern Rettig. "They're three blocks away now"). And there was a nervous energy: Finally, after all the advertisements, all the speeches, it was time to put Iowa on the board.

Turnout was unusually good: 60 out of 213 registered Republicans in the township showed up.

At 7:10, Mr. Rettig called for quiet, and everyone rose, one by one, to introduce themselves.

After a moment of uncomfortable silence, the group once again picked Mr. Rettig, who grows corn and Christmas trees on his farm now that he has retired from engineering at John Deere, to be precinct chairman, the fellow in charge of running the caucus.

"I really didn't want to do this," he told the crowd.

Mr. Rettig sat at a card table in front of the room and asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of a candidate for a minute or two. First candidate on the list was Lamar Alexander. Helen Grattan stood up. "I have relatives in Tennessee that have had a successful experience with him," she said of the former Tennessee governor. "I think he's a man who can win against Clinton. Lamar Alexander is a sensitive man."

Jerry Wheelock, a Pat Buchanan supporter, made a 30-second pitch for his man: "He's a very issue-oriented person. He's very pro-gun, pro-life, pro-taxpayer."

Bob Dole was next on the list, but no one stood up for the front-runner in the Republican race.

After a moment of surprised silence, Mr. Rettig moved on to Bob Doman, the California congressman whose campaign is dormant. No one volunteered. Finally, a young man in the back stood up for Steve Forbes, the publisher whose television commercials dominated the Iowa campaign.

"He is external to the Washington politics that stands right now," the supporter said. "He's operated a business which has turned a profit. That's what we need now."

No one jumped to speak for Senator Phil Gramm, so an older man in the back grudgingly rose. "I didn't come to vote for Phil Gramm," he said, "but he's been around so long with good principles that someone should stand and say good words about him."

At the end of the list, just as Mr. Rettig was about to hand out the slips of white notepaper for the vote, Roger Lebel stood up: "Since no one stood for Dole, I will. I was for Dole, then for Forbes, and now, in the last two weeks, Dole has convinced me that this government can't be run by an outsider: It takes some compromise. Some give-and-take. I'm a conservative, but there's the right way to do things and there's the idiot way."

There was a definite tension in the Newby living room between the largely older moderates, most of them longtime residents, and the younger newcomers, most of them members of the religious right.

Before the meeting, most of the talk was about Mr. Dole and Mr. Alexander. Many of the folks who live in the old farmhouses and new suburban developments in this decreasingly rural spot 15 miles outside Des Moines know each other.

The newcomers did not do much talking before the vote. They do not know their neighbors as well. Perhaps they did not feel comfortable expressing their views among strangers.

Helen Grattan passed out the voting slips. Vern Rettig followed with a shoe box that served as ballot box. Then they went into the kitchen to count.

Bondurant's precinct, known as Franklin 1, voted thus: Buchanan: 24. Dole: 19. Alexander: 12. Gramm: 3. Lugar: 1. Forbes: 1. Dornan, Keyes and Morry Taylor did not win any votes here.

Mr. Rettig returned to the living room to announce the results. Don Newby phoned them in to the Voter News Service. Caucus night, everyone agreed, is a good time, an important time.

A Harsher Justice for Blacks

California Imprisonment Rate Far Above That of Whites

By Fox Butterfield
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Almost 40 percent of black men in their 20s in California are imprisoned or on probation or parole on any given day, according to a study.

The report is the latest in a series of reports in the last few years showing that young black men are being imprisoned at a rate far out of proportion to their number in the overall population.

A study last fall, for example, found that nationally, one-third of the black men in their 20s were under the control of the criminal justice system. That was an increase from five years ago, when one-fourth of the black men nationwide aged 20 to 29 were incarcerated or on probation or parole.

By contrast, the report on Monday said that only 5 percent of the white men in California in their 20s and 11 percent of the Hispanic men of that age group were in the criminal system last year.

Vincent Schiraldi, the author of the study, attributed the high numbers for black men to tougher punishment for the use of crack cocaine than for other drugs; harsh new sentencing laws; the prison construction boom, and poverty, lack of good jobs and poor education in the inner cities.

"Conscious or not, it is difficult to imagine the war on crime being waged with this vehemence if middle-class white males were similarly affected," said Mr. Schiraldi, executive director of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice in San Francisco, a research and advocacy group.

Mr. Schiraldi predicted that with California's new "three strikes" sentencing law, the number of young black men in prison would only become more disproportionate. He said that one recent survey of 1,000 cases in Los Angeles had found that blacks were charged at 17 times the rate of whites under the new law, which provides for automatic life sentences for criminals convicted of three felonies and double the usual sentences for those convicted of a second serious offense.

Willie L. Brown Jr., the mayor of San Francisco, said Monday where the report was released, "It doesn't take a genius to realize something is wrong when you look at the numbers."

Blacks make up only 7 percent of the population of California, Mr. Brown said, but they account for 18 percent of those arrested in the state and 32 percent of its prison population.

Criminologists are divided on what the report means.

James Q. Wilson, a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, said that, although the figures were very troubling, "if you set aside the arrests for crack cocaine, they are not the result of bias in the criminal justice system."

Most crimes nationwide are committed by young people and by males, he said, and no one argues that the system is biased when it imprisons a disproportionate number of young men.

Instead, the fact that almost 40 percent of young black men are under the control of the criminal justice system "reflects an unhappy fact," Mr. Wilson said. "The system is more or less putting people in prison at the rate at which they commit crimes." He said there was no easy solution except to "try to profoundly change the circumstances of people in their early years of life."

But Alfred Blumstein, a criminologist at Carnegie Mellon University, said that increasingly the disproportionate figures resulted from the war on drugs, in which the police have focused on the inner city rather than the suburbs because the drug trade there is more out in the open and involves blacks.

"The issue we really have to face is the degree to which we are damning a whole generation of people who are pursuing the only economic opportunity they see, however wrong it is," he said.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Most Wardens Frown On 'No Frills' Idea

Taking bodybuilding equipment, cable television, and other amenities away from prisoners is a popular concept these days, especially among politicians. But a new survey suggests that most of the people who run U.S. prisons believe this approach is misguided.

The survey was conducted by Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Researchers questioned 641 wardens and prison superintendents by mail.

While many respondents said that they had cut back on various amenities, either at their own initiative or because they had been ordered to do so, a far larger number said such steps ran counter to their own judgment about how to operate prisons.

For instance, 30 percent of all respondents said they had scaled back or eliminated weight-lifting rooms. But 63 percent of respondents said this was a mistake.

"This does not mean that wardens are soft on crime," said Dr. Timothy Flanagan, dean of the university's Criminal Justice Center, which conducted the survey. Rather, he said, wardens view amenities, and in-prison education and craft programs, as important for two reasons: they provide constructive activities, and can also be used as rewards or, when withdrawn, as punishment.

Short Takes

The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, is having trouble finding volunteers for a metabolism study into why some people cannot gain weight no matter how much they eat. Dr. James Levine, the endocrinologist who is directing the study, said the clinic has been swamped by 500 calls from people who either cannot gain weight or are overweight to begin with. But people of average weight who get heavier when they overeat are reluctant to stuff themselves for the sake of the study, he said.

Eight years after approving the first and only known medical treatment for hereditary baldness, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has dropped the requirement that it can be obtained only by prescription. Rogaine is now as easy to obtain from a pharmacy as aspirin. A one-month supply will cost about $29.50. Dermatologists generally applauded, cautioning that Rogaine must be applied twice a day, takes months for results to show, and does not work for everyone.

A couple in Mineola, New York, discovered a red light glowing behind the bedroom mirror in their newly rented apartment. They phoned the police when they found that the mirror was one-way and that the red light was on a video camera in the landlord's workroom next door. The camera was trained on their bed. The New York Times reports that Mark Pearlman, 45, was charged with breaking and entering with a surveillance device, punishable by up to seven years in prison. The landlord said he wanted to make sure his tenants did not smoke.

The world's largest snowball fight, scheduled by the Chicago suburb of Skokie, was fought with marshmallows instead when the weather did not cooperate. Thousands of children tossed or gnawed on 130,000 marshmallows poured from 2,500 bags of the confection.

Catherine Barriger, a New York Times reader, told the newspaper's Metropolitan Diary column that as she was crossing Third Avenue in Manhattan, an elderly woman with a cane asked for help crossing the street. "I gave her my arm and proceeded at what I thought was an appropriate speed. Apparently it wasn't. 'Let's move it,' she said."

International Herald Tribune

Canada's Snowmobile Craze: An Image on Thin Ice

By Charles Trueheart
Washington Post Service

LIVELY, Ontario — At the end of a snowbanked side road is a nondescript building labeled The Shop. This is where you come to get your new snow machine and all the riding threads and cruising gear you can afford, including electric thumb warmers. A few years back, The Shop sold more snowmobiles than any other dealer in North America.

"About 800," said the laconic co-owner, Ronald Kanerva, one recent morning in a cubicle off a showroom floor packed with dazzling machines.

People come from miles around and even oceans away to put a big sled between their legs and head out on Ontario's 25,000 groomed contiguous miles (40,000 kilometers) of snowmobile trails — more than the province's highway mileage. The trail network is the world's most extensive, and some dare to believe the snowmobile could be the noisy source of an economic boom here at the cold edge of the great northern wilderness.

Legions of new snowmobilers are discovering the recreation that snowbound and stir-crazy Canadians have enjoyed for as long as the vehicles have been around — just three decades.

Cruising along the highway's edge, filling up at the gas station, darting across hilltops, competing with cars for parking spaces, the snowmobiles are as much a part of the landscape here as snow.

"I've seen people get behind in their car payments and their house payments," said Jim Robinson, a snowmobiling enthusiast in Sudbury, Ontario., "but they don't let the snowmobile payments slide."

Long before their recent boom as popular recreational vehicles, snowmobiles had become the transportation of necessity in isolated Indian and Inuit communities in Canada's far north. Now, their advent as motorized entertainment for jaded North Americans is starting to transform the tourist industry here.

One would think all this would be a source of enthusiasm for a snowmobiling business success story, like Mr. Kanerva's. But, visibly suspicious, he said he did not wish to contribute to media interest in his The reason for his reticence is no mystery. Media accounts of snowmobiling tend to be bad news, and there is lots of it. Last winter, 38 people died in Ontario snowmobiling accidents; the count stands at 20 so far this year.

One recent fatality was caused by sledders racing across open water — the temperatures have been around minus 25 centigrade (minus 13 Fahrenheit) — from ice floe to ice floe. It's called puddle-jumping, and it's popular. "You've got to have nerve," said Constable Drew Nesbitt, "more nerve than brain."

The most troubling accident of the season to date took place near Minden, Ontario, on Jan. 20 when four friends fell through thin lake ice at night. When the bodies were hauled up, one victim still had beer bottles in his pockets.

One problem with most nighttime riding on frozen lakes at high speeds is that snowmobiles outrun the range of their headlights. By the time an object looms into view, it is too late for the vehicle to stop.

Alcohol is a factor in three-quarters of Ontario's snow machine fatalities.

"Your typical fatality is a guy going home late at night after consuming alcohol," said Mr. Robinson, "and he either collides with an immovable object, like a tree or an island, or he goes through the ice." Serious snowmobilers, including many who champion the economic benefits of turning forbidding winter landscapes into enticing winter playgrounds, are defensive about the horror stories.

Don Lumley, an avid sledder in Garson, Ontario, pointed out what motorcyclists and other death-defiers often do, that the crazy driving and injuries and fatalities are the work of just a few miscreants.

Japan Rules Out Force Over Disputed Islands

It Moves to Ease Tensions With Seoul

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Japan tried Tuesday to defuse tension with South Korea over Tokyo's plan to declare an exclusive economic zone that would encompass disputed islands, ruling out the use of force to settle the issue and saying that it would be discussed with South Korea when the atmosphere was calmer.

"Japan has never intended to use force and does not intend to do so over such disputes," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman, Hiroshi Hashimoto. "We will wait for a quieter atmosphere to take up the issue."

South Korean authorities have reacted with growing outrage to the announcement of Japan's coming ratification of the Law of the Sea, a UN treaty that allows signatories to declare an exclusive economic zone of 200 nautical miles around their coasts.

Such a zone would encompass the Takeshima islands, know as Tokdo in Korean. Seoul took another step Monday with the announcement that it would soon hold military exercises near the islands.

Mr. Hashimoto said the Japanese government "has not decided whether it will establish an exclusive economic zone."

"We are still studying what we should do," he said.

He said it was "very unfortunate that the Korean people are strongly reacting to this issue."

"Japan sincerely hopes that Japan and the Republic of Korea can talk in a quiet atmosphere," he added.

Japan, he said, wants to avoid a situation that would lead to "an emotional confrontation between the two countries."

The dispute is the latest flashpoint in sporadic but persistent tension between the two countries over the legacy of Japan's colonial rule of Korea from 1910 to 1945.

The islands have a total area of only 250 square meters (2,690 square feet) but they are surrounded by rich fishing grounds, and the seabed is believed to contain mineral deposits.

Over the weekend, the dispute escalated when Seoul said a group of Japanese parliamentarians, who had been planning to visit South Korea this month, would not be welcome because some of them had said they will take up the Takeshima issue. The legislators called off their trip.

Under its constitution, Japan is banned from using military force to settle international disputes.

But it regularly sends coast guard cutters to patrol areas around disputed islands.

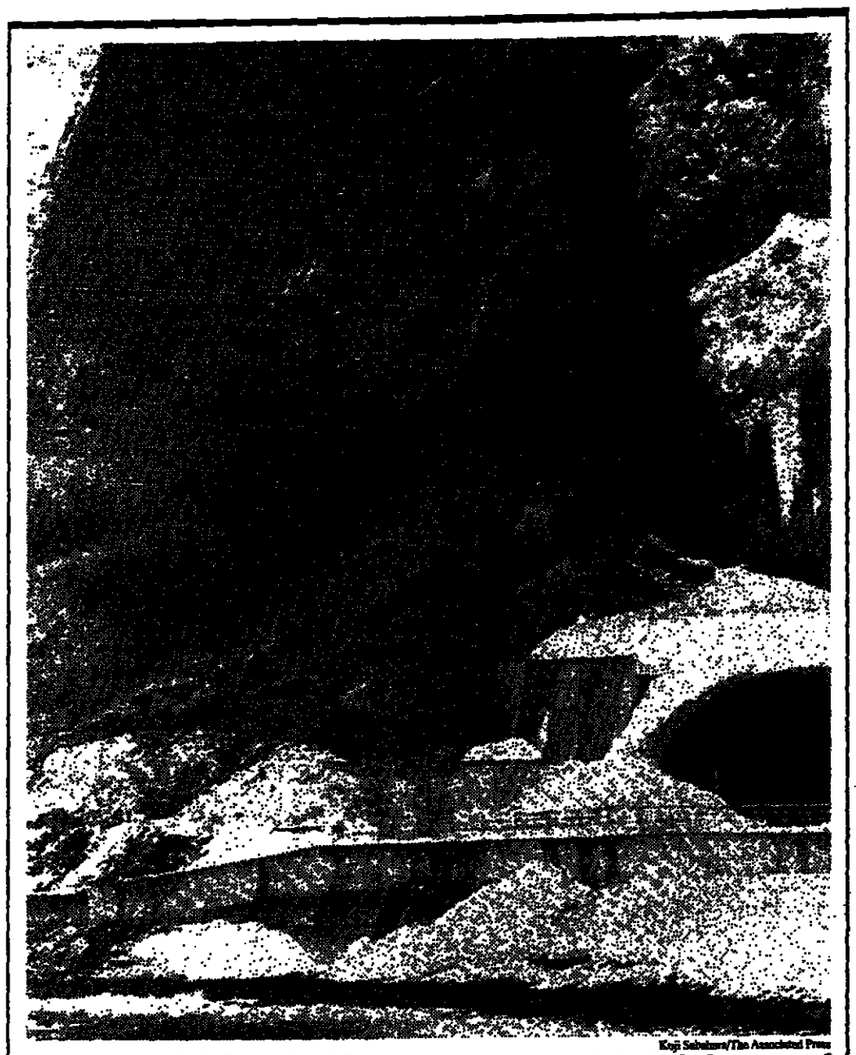
Unlike a similar dispute over the Kuril Islands that are occupied by Russia, Tokyo and Seoul have not agreed to take up the Takeshima issue in a formal bilateral framework, Mr. Hashimoto said.

There is also no plan for Japan to bring the Takeshima issue to the International Court of Justice or to ask a third country to mediate the dispute.

"This is solely a matter for the two countries," Mr. Hashimoto said.

Meanwhile, he confirmed reports that a Chinese oil-drilling ship had been sighted off the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea. The islands are under dispute by China, Japan and Taiwan. The Chinese ship No.3 Kandang, he said, was seen last week by a Japanese Coast Guard cutter.

But Mr. Hashimoto refrained from making further comments about the Chinese ship. *(Reuters, AFP)*



Koji Sakahara/The Associated Press

ANOTHER EFFORT — A third detonation in Japan crumbled only the lower part of a boulder that has trapped 20 people in a tunnel for days. Another blast is planned. Japan plans nationwide inspections of all tunnels, hoping to prevent similar disasters.

BRIEFLY

Taiwan Troops on Higher Alert

TAIPEI — Taiwan's Defense Ministry, reacting to China's buildup of troops facing this island, said Tuesday that its armed forces were being put on higher alert to guard against any provocations.

Defense Minister Chiang Chung-ling said earlier that China has massed about 150,000 troops for a military exercise near Taiwan and added that the country was "prepared for war but not expecting war."

China, which has regarded Taiwan as a renegade province since 1949, when the defeated Nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek fled to the island from the mainland, has vowed to attack the island if it drops a pledge to reunify with the mainland and instead declares its independence. *(Reuters)*

Australian Opposition's Plans

CANBERRA — Australia's conservative opposition coalition, now leading polls for the March 2 general election, said Tuesday that it would consider fitting submarines with cruise missiles to enhance the nation's long-range strike force.

Denying that Asian neighbors should be alarmed at the prospect, the opposition leader, John Howard, said Australia must retain the strategic capability provided by its fleet of F-111 bombers.

"The coalition is determined to maintain a viable and effective strike force," Mr. Howard said in his defense policy document, issued Tuesday. His coalition of Liberal and National parties is ahead of the ruling Labor Party in opinion polls. *(Reuters)*

Abortion Protest in Manila

MANILA — Hundreds of protesters picketed in front of clinics Tuesday in what anti-abortion groups said were the first coordinated nationwide demonstrations in the Philippines against abortion practitioners.

Carrying streamers, placards, and rosaries, protesters at a clinic in Manila's Malate district chanted, "You have no right to kill babies."

Filipina Ranaga, a leader of the Roman Catholic-led group Pro-Life, said similar protests were held at clinics in the cities of Pagsanjan, Bulacan, Pampanga and Davao, where doctors and unlicensed local practitioners conduct abortions. Abortion is illegal but fairly common in the Philippines. *(AP)*

Karen Rebels to Seek Peace

MAE SOT, Thailand — The last major ethnic rebel group resisting control by Burma's military dictatorship plans to hold peace talks Wednesday in Rangoon.

Karen guerrillas, who have waged one of the world's oldest insurgencies, will send a dozen representatives to meet with Burmese officials in the capital, a high-ranking Karen National Union official said Tuesday.

The two sides aim to settle a conflict that has lasted more than 47 years. The Karens, one of the most numerous of Burma's many ethnic minorities, seek independence or at least a degree of autonomy. *(AP)*

VOICES From Asia

Shen Guofang, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, on tensions in relations with Taipei: "Taiwan may only develop economic and trade relations with other countries that are of a nongovernmental nature because Taiwan is not a country, it is only a region. It is an inalienable part of China." *(AFP)*

General Arturo Enrile, head of the Philippines armed forces, on the continuing struggle to contain piracy: "We need some kind of boost in terms of being able to patrol as much sea area as we can to minimize the occurrence of piracy." *(Reuters)*

France Backing Indonesia

The Associated Press

JAKARTA — France will help Indonesia keep East Timor off the agenda of a conference of European and Asian leaders next month, the French foreign minister said Tuesday.

France, along with other European countries, does not recognize Indonesia's 1976 annexation of the former Portuguese colony, where Indonesian troops are fighting to suppress an independence movement.

But Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette, asked at a news conference about Indonesia's opposition to bringing up the issue at the meeting in Bangkok, said, "We will help our friend if the assistance is requested."

He said that at the meeting on March 1-2, France would discuss topics that would strengthen relations between Europe and Asia and wanted to avoid "questions that would create problems."

Portugal may push its European allies to bring up East Timor at the Bangkok meeting, which is to be attended by leaders of 15 European and 10 East Asian countries.

After meeting with Mr. de Charette on Monday, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia said: "For the sake of a successful meeting, we should not allow irrelevant or controversial issues to be put forward."

A stream of East Timorese have sought refuge in embassies in Jakarta in recent months, complaining of repression in their homeland.

Political Peace Offer Rejected in Bangladesh

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DHAKA — Bangladesh's main opposition leader rejected Tuesday a fresh peace offer from Prime Minister Khalida Zia as this week's general election was undercut further by fresh violence and a decision by civil servants to boycott poll duty.

Hasina Wazed, leader of the main opposition party, the Awami League, said that talks with Begum Zia's "venal and repressive government" would serve no purpose if the parliamentary elections were held as planned.

"If they go ahead with the elections, how can there be any negotiations," Sheikh Hasina said. "If she really wants negotiations, she will have to cancel the elections and step down."

Begum Zia reiterated Tuesday an overnight offer to the opposition for talks after Thursday's voting and held out the carrot of more representative elections at an unspecified date.

"We have to go ahead with the elections because elections must be held by Feb. 21 according to the constitution," she said, referring to a law requiring voting within 90 days of the dissolution of parliament.

The opposition has accused the governing Bangladesh Nationalist Party of election fraud in earlier votes and has insisted that the prime minister install a neutral caretaker government to conduct the polling. Begum Zia calls that demand unconstitutional.

Fresh violence, including arson attacks on voting centers, government offices and vehicles erupted in the port city of Chittagong, an opposition bastion, and some other towns late Tuesday.

Abdul Gaffar, a candidate for a tiny opposition party, died in a Dhaka hospital from injuries received in election violence Sunday ago in western Jessore, hospital sources said. He is the first candidate to die in two weeks of violence that have left 17 persons dead.

In Chittagong, army patrols were beefed up after four state-run schools and a local office of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party were set afire, witnesses said.

Similar incidents were reported from Sirajganj town in the west, Chandpur and Comilla in the east and Sherpur in the north.

The police said that attacks with crude bombs were staged in and around Dhaka on Tuesday, wounding at least 25.

The mood in the capital was muted, with hardly any political graffiti or banners despite the participation of 41 small political parties in the coming voting.

Meanwhile, representatives of civil servants said at a meeting that they would refuse to do election duty at the polls.

A spokesman for the 8,000-member Bangladesh Civil Service Association said it would not bow to threats by the government. *(AFP, AP)*

With Fragmentation of the Old Order, Crime Blooms in China

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — It was 4 A.M. on Feb. 2 when Zhang Jinlong, a member of the People's Armed Police, left his guard post at one of China's leadership compounds and went to burglarize the home of Li Peiyao, deputy chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

When the 63-year-old politician discovered Mr. Zhang, 19, in his house, the two scuffled and the older man was killed, according to a government official, who said Mr. Zhang has been arrested and charged.

The commander of the People's Armed Police, Major General Meng Zhende, and his political commissar, Zhang Shian, were held responsible for the murder and have been relieved of their posts, state television said Tuesday.

The case has highlighted the rising rate of violent crime in Chinese cities. From Shenzhen, where the police pull bodies out of fields and rivers, to Beijing, where taxis are hijacked at gunpoint, crime has become an ugly, familiar aspect of China in the age of economic change.

For years, China's Communist government, through an oppressive system of residence permits and travel limitations, had virtually wiped out serious street crime. People in neighborhoods knew one another, and residents had to report to block committees and seek permission to host visitors, even relatives.

The block committees now frequently act as neighborhood patrols instead of keepers of political discipline. With greater freedom of movement, rising affluence, greater economic inequality and the breakdown of tightly knit communities, thieves now have the means to commit crimes and evade capture.

According to the most recent figures, the number of criminal cases handled last year by the police throughout China surpassed one million in August, a 6 percent increase from a year earlier. Court officials said about half "posed a grave threat to national security or public safety" — murder, armed robbery, rape, drug trafficking, kidnapping and disruption of production.

In 1995, a record 395 Chinese policemen were killed in the line of duty, a 19 percent increase over 1994, while 8,526 officers were wounded, according to a Public Security Ministry spokesman quoted by the Xinhua press agency.

To many people in Beijing, the killing of Mr. Li, who had been chairman of the Nationalist Party wing that shifted its loyalty to the Communists in 1949 instead of fleeing to Taiwan, showed that no one is safe. A survey by the state-run Legal Daily found that more than 70 percent of the people it polled feel unsafe in the capital.

Fear of crime has spurred an increase in sales of security doors, bicycle locks and riot sticks. In many places, the police have set up businesses to sell security devices and thus profit from the public's fears.

The government has responded to the rising crime rate with stiffer punishments. Since 1979, the number of crimes carrying capital punishment has more than doubled, without being much of a deterrent.

KOREAN: *Former Wife of 'the Greatest Man Ever Known in History' Is Reported Defecting*

Continued from Page 1

Agency said after a Seoul newspaper broke the news.

The revelations came as three North Korean defectors were holding a televised press conference in Seoul to denounce the government in the North. The number of defectors has dramatically increased recently and food shortages are said to be spreading. Some experts even believe that the North Korean government will collapse within a few years.

"I think the disintegration of the system is about to begin," Kim Joung Won, a former South Korean ambassador and now a research specialist on the North, said after the reports of Miss Sung's disappearance. But he noted that the North Korean leadership continues to command fear from citizens and that this may forestall collapse in the immediate future.

If Miss Sung is being debriefed by a Western intelligence service, she will be a gold mine of information about Kim Jong Il, the North Korean leader.

Very little is known about him, for he has never publicly met a Westerner and has only once allowed his voice to be broadcast on radio and television — and only for a single sentence.

Mr. Kim is the army leader but has not yet formally taken the positions of president and Communist Party general secretary, which remain vacant.

Almost all experts believe, however, that he has inherited supreme power since the death of his father, President Kim Il Sung, in 1994. Mr. Kim's eldest son, in turn, is Kim Jung Nam, 26, who has been gaining authority recently in North Korean political circles.

His mother is Miss Sung, whom he has visited regularly since his parents' separation.

Intelligence experts in Seoul said Miss Sung, a movie actress, was the wife of a prominent North Korean official when Kim Jong Il spotted her three decades ago. He took a fancy to her and reportedly forced her to divorce her husband and live with him beginning in 1967, although it is unclear whether they ever went through a formal marriage ceremony. The couple separated, and Mr. Kim is living with his third wife.

Experts on North Korea said that Mr. Kim effectively exiled Miss Sung from North Korea beginning in 1983, allowing her to return only on special occasions. Mr. Kim looked after her financially, however, buying her a luxury apartment in Moscow, and a $2 million villa near Geneva.

The Chosun Ilbo, the Seoul newspaper that first disclosed her possible defection, suggested that Miss Sung decided to do so after the current wife began dominating family affairs.

North Korea's news media did not comment on the reports about Miss Sung. The official Korean Central News Agency has said nothing about Kim Jong Il's family but is unrestrained in describing Mr. Kim, referring to him last month as "an outstanding great master of witty remarks as well as the greatest man ever known in history."

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SHARES: *The New Warren Buffet Offering Is Cheap at $1,000*

Continued from Page 1

was undervalued, we would not be making a public offering," he said.

The high price of Berkshire stock has created several problems for holders. For one thing, only those with more than $30,000 to invest could buy Berkshire.

Also, U.S. tax laws stipulate that no person can give more than $10,000 a year to another without paying gift taxes. That meant that a father could not, for example, give even one share of Berkshire to his son without incurring the tax.

The high price even inspired some people to propose unit investment trusts that would invest only in Berkshire stock, allowing an investor to get a Berkshire stake for as little as $1,000. It was that move, Mr. Buffett said, that encouraged him to create the new class of stock.

The new stock, to be known as class B, will be close to being worth one-thirtieth of an old share, now to be known as class A. Old class A shares may be converted into 30 new class B shares, but class B shares may not be converted back into Class A shares. The company plans to sell $100 million in class B shares in a public offering as soon as May.

While a price a bit above $1,000 may not seem low, the regular shares of Berkshire Hathaway have not traded in that area since the summer of 1983.

The class B shares would get one-thirtieth of the dividends paid on class A shares, if Berkshire ever paid any, and would get one-thirtieth as much were the company ever to liquidate. But B shares will have only one-two-hundredth of the votes of a class A share. In this case, voting rights are not very important because Mr. Buffett and his family have 40 percent of the stock in the company and a proxy fight is all but unthinkable.

The one real disadvantage for an owner of class B stock concerns charitable donations. One of Berkshire's unusual aspects has been that its charitable gifts are chosen by shareholders, who can designate a charity to get a certain amount per share each year. Last year, it was $13 per share. The class B holders will have no such right. "We want the B to be slightly inferior to the A," Mr. Buffett said.

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EUROPE

Ulster Peace: The Injured Process May Need Surgery

By Richard W. Stevenson
New York Times Service

LONDON — In the days since the Irish Republican Army resumed its campaign of violence by detonating a huge bomb in East London, political leaders in Britain and Ireland have fallen all over themselves restating their continued dedication to achieving peace in Northern Ireland.

"We are not at the end of the road for peace," Prime Minister John Major said in a speech to the House of Commons. "If we are pushed back we will start again."

But for all the conciliatory words, the effort to bring peace to the province has been dealt a setback of a type that cannot be easily or quickly fixed.

Seventeen months without bombs or guns created something never before evident in the tangled relations between Roman Catholics and Protestants, moderates and militants, British and Irish: the beginnings of trust and confidence.

The bombing obliterated that progress, and effectively put the process back where it was before September 1994 when the IRA created new hopes for a lasting settlement by implementing a unilateral cease-fire that led to a similar cessation of violence by the loyalist paramilitaries on the other side.

Indeed, both the British and Irish governments have vowed in the wake of the bombing that they will no longer meet with Sinn Fein, the IRA's political representatives, until the IRA has resumed its cease-fire.

George J. Mitchell, the former U.S. senator who headed an international commission on the peace efforts, said in London, "One of the problems that has led to this state is the constant search for blame and the constant looking to the past to assign responsibility, and it is an endless no-win process."

The background of renewed mistrust and mutual recrimination will make it that much more difficult for the British

NEWS ANALYSIS

and Irish governments and the parties representing Protestants and Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland to close the procedural and substantive gaps that had stalled the peace efforts even before the bombing.

The British and Irish governments remain at loggerheads over how to get the talks going again, and over the importance of requiring the IRA to begin handing over its explosives and guns before giving Sinn Fein a seat at full-scale negotiations.

And trust aside, negotiations with the republican movement are now complicated by an apparent split between the IRA's military leaders and the purportedly more moderate Sinn Fein leader, Gerry Adams.

For two years, the Irish and American governments have sought to build credibility for Mr. Adams — in the Clinton administration's case by allowing him to visit the United States and inviting him to the White House — and to push him to use his new stature to lead the IRA away from terrorism.

The bombing, however, appeared to show that Mr. Adams has little if any influence with the IRA's military leaders on the one hand, and on the other cost him whatever nascent status he had as a peaceful representative of the republican movement in the eyes of the British and the Unionist parties representing the province's Protestant majority.

David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, has urged the Clinton administration to re-examine its policy of issuing visas to Mr. Adams and other Sinn Fein leaders to visit the United States.

If there is an optimistic view after the bombing, it is that the British and Irish governments, because of their desire to keep the peace efforts alive, must bring about some forward momentum and will have to display flexibility quickly to create it.

Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland said, "The tragedy of the situation in regard to the bomb is that we were very close to a breakthrough. I believe, in getting a formula that would have enabled us to move forward pretty quickly."

Mr. Bruton is pushing for a Bosnia-style peace conference, at which all parties could talk through intermediaries. The proposal would not require the IRA to begin giving up its arms, a goal that Irish officials view as unrealistic at best and obstructionist at worst.

But because the IRA is so deeply unpopular in England, Scotland and Wales, there is little political incentive for Mr. Major to take a risk by changing his position and pushing for an immediate start to all-party talks.

Sinn Fein, in fact, sees Mr. Major as beholden to the Unionists, and therefore to be an increasingly untrustworthy negotiating partner.

Mr. Major has proposed another way of breaking the deadlock — elections in Northern Ireland to a negotiating forum that could begin work in parallel with moves by the IRA to give up its arms.

To Sinn Fein, proposing elections was waving a red flag before the jittery, hard-line bulls of the IRA's military leadership. Not only do republicans view elections with suspicion, given the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland, but many of them appeared to conclude that Mr. Major was playing a delaying game and had no intention of inviting Sinn Fein to full-scale negotiations anytime soon.

Irish Leader Now Says He'll Talk About Elections

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Strained relations between Britain and Ireland over the peace process in Ulster appeared to ease somewhat Tuesday as the leaders of the two countries tried to salvage a process shattered by an IRA bomb.

Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland said he would discuss Britain's demand for elections in Northern Ireland, but only if all parties were brought together for talks that resembled those that resulted in the peace plan for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Prime Minister John Major of Britain has called for elections in Ulster to create a body to guide the peace process there, an idea that has been attacked by the Irish government and rejected by Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA.

Sinn Fein contends that the elections are a further effort by the British government to stall the group's participation in all-party talks, and that they smack of a resumption of one-party rule by the Protestant majority.

But Mr. Bruton, in a speech to the Irish Parliament on Tuesday, said he would discuss elections with Mr. Major.

He also reiterated that he would not meet with Sinn Fein until the Irish Republican Army reinstated the 17-month cease-fire it canceled just before detonating a bomb in London on Friday night. The explosion killed two people and wounded about 100.

Mr. Bruton said he believed that he had had "an irrevocable commitment" from Sinn Fein that there would be no more IRA violence and that this pledge had been "thrown back in my face."

To the IRA, he said: "Think again. A quarter of a century of violence did not progress any of your political aims. Violence is a bankrupt substitute for peaceful persuasion and patient negotiations."

When the British prime minister repeated his call for elections after the bombing, Mr. Bruton said they would only "throw petrol on the flames."

But he appeared to be assuaged when Mr. Major told the House of Commons on Monday that the elected body he envisaged was an ad hoc consultative one that would oversee the peace process, with no legislative, executive or administrative functions.

Mr. Major told lawmakers: "The elected body I am proposing would only exist for a short period and would have a single aim, to lead directly to negotiations."

Mr. Bruton said after Mr. Major's speech that he was happy that the prime minister had "showed an openness to a variety of approaches."

Mr. Major's election plan is designed to get around the pro-British Unionists' refusal to talk to Sinn Fein until the IRA gives up its arms and Sinn Fein's insistence that all-party talks start before any weapons are relinquished.

Although differences appear to be narrowing, Irish officials played down reports that the government had dropped its opposition to elections. "It doesn't mean it's game set and match for holding elections," an official said. "But elections leading to all-party talks is a goal."

Ian Paisley, a hard-line Unionist leader, said after an hourlong meeting with Mr. Major in London that it was realistic to expect all-party talks to be held after the elections. *(AFP, Reuters)*

Talks in Italy Over Coalition Fall Through

Reuters

ROME — Prime Minister-designate Antonio Maccanico said Tuesday that he would meet President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro on Wednesday, and state television said he would report that he was unable to form a government.

The announcement followed the collapse of a 33-day effort by Italy's feuding parties to form a new coalition.

Mr. Scalfaro asked Mr. Maccanico to form a government on Feb. 1, three weeks after Prime Minister Lamberto Dini resigned. Mr. Dini is still the caretaker prime minister, however.

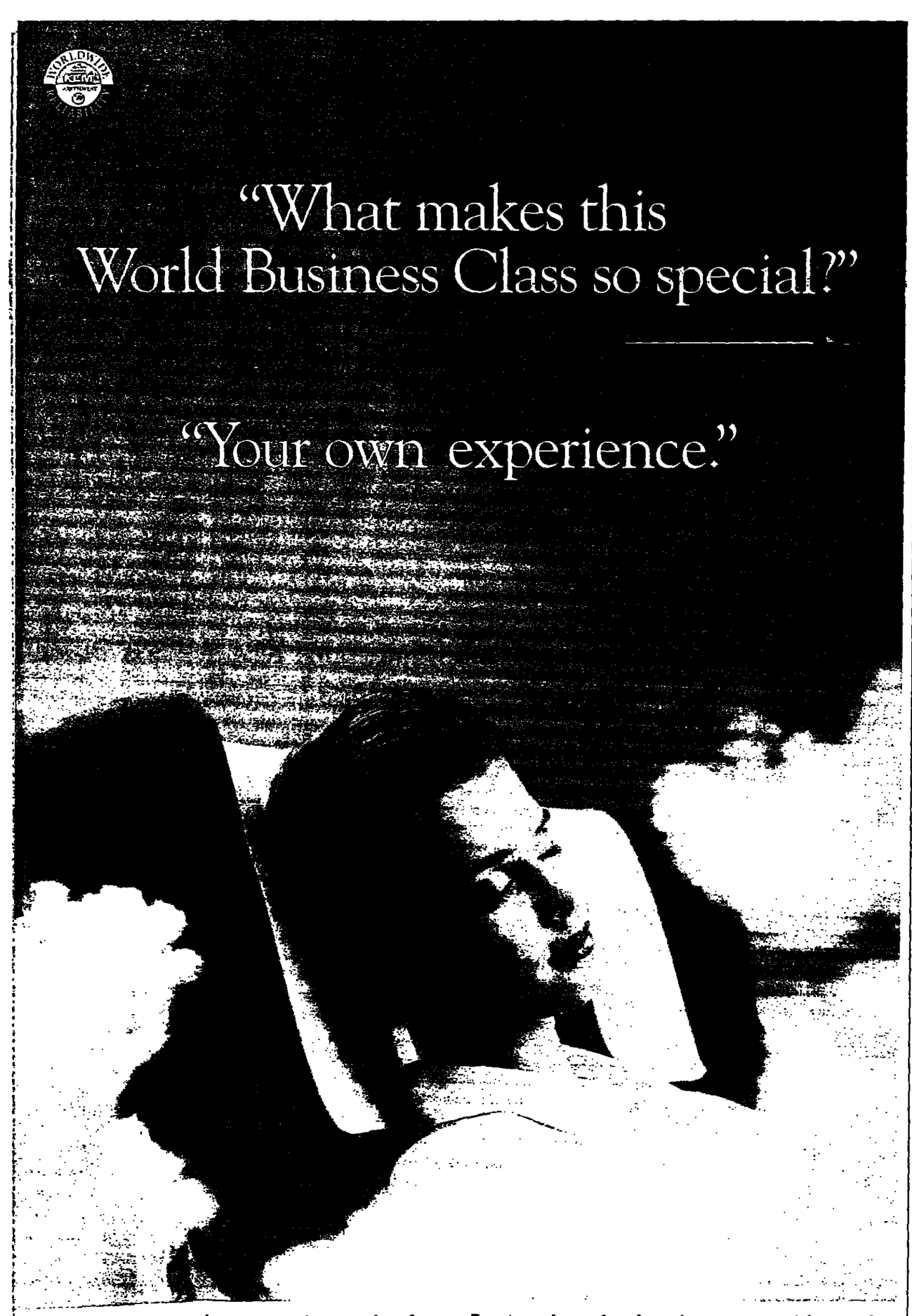
Mr. Maccanico's efforts have been thwarted by a deadlock between the main parties on the right and left over constitutional and electoral reforms. Each side blamed the other for the collapse of the talks.

Mr. Scalfaro must decide whether to dissolve Parliament and call a general election for late April, three years ahead of schedule. He could also try to delay a vote by trying to extend Mr. Dini's term until the end of Italy's European Union presidency, on June 30.

But Silvio Berlusconi, the leader of the conservative, center-right Freedom Alliance, suggested a third course: the direct election of a constituent assembly that would work on reforms.

The idea was rejected, however, by Massimo D'Alema and his Democratic Party of the Left, the biggest force in center-left Olive Tree coalition.

Cesare Salvi, a party leader, said: "Mr. Berlusconi doesn't seem to have understood. The alternative to a government of reforms, which he made fail, is not a constituent assembly or other last-minute inventions, but a general election."



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Peter Bronnekes/Reuters

7 DIE IN BUS CRASH — Rescuers on Tuesday lifting a Dutch tour bus that apparently skidded on an icy road and landed on its roof in Züschen, Germany.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

Angered Spain Calls Meeting on Border Pact

MADRID — Spain has called an extraordinary meeting of the Schengen Convention committee next week to discuss extradition rules, the secretary of state for European Affairs said Tuesday.

Spain's request comes after a Belgian court refused to extradite two suspected members of the Basque terrorist group ETA to Madrid.

Last week, the Spanish government said it would no longer enforce two articles on extraditions and cooperation between national courts under the Schengen accord, a year-old treaty that is intended to allow free movement across European borders. Signers also promised to cooperate on criminal matters. *(Reuters)*

France May Cut Army

PARIS — France is considering cutting its army by nearly half, an overhaul that would also affect Europe's fledgling defense corps, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

Le Monde said that the Defense Ministry plan would reduce troops from the current 240,000 to around 130,000. The overhaul would also dissolve the First Armored Division, a 21,600-strong unit that makes up the bulk of France's contribution to the Eurocorps army created in 1992. *(AP)*

Union Warning on Beef

BRUSSELS — The European Commission formally warned Germany on Tuesday that three of its states were violating EU law on internal trade barriers by banning imports of British beef for fear of "mad cow disease."

The EU executive gave the German government one month to reply to the warning, said a commission spokesman.

Bavaria, North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate banned British beef last week amid fears that imports of British beef might be tainted by mad cow disease that could spread to humans. *(AP)*

EU Arms Rules Sought

LONDON — Britain's opposition Labor Party on Tuesday called for a European Union code of conduct on arms exports that would discourage sales of weapons to repressive regimes.

The party made the proposal two days before publication of an independent report criticizing Britain's arms trade with Iraq in the 1980s. Baghdad used some of those arms against British soldiers in the Gulf War.

A Labor spokesman, Robin Cook, said arms sales to authoritarian regimes were often justified by saying that if Britain did not supply such equipment other countries would do so instead.

"That makes the case for why it is that we should seek to achieve a common European standard on the sale of defense equipment," he said. *(Reuters)*

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Wednesday:

STRASBOURG: The European Parliament debates quotas for European television shows within the European Union.

STRASBOURG: Social Affairs Commissioner Padraig Flynn speaks at a youth conference.

TEL AVIV: The European ministers of foreign affairs and the vice president of the European Commission, Manuel Marin, meet with Israeli officials.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP

INTERNATIONAL

Forget Past, Holbrooke Urges Central Europe

The Associated Press

BUCHAREST — A senior State Department official urged countries of Central Europe on Tuesday *not to dwell* on past grievances if they want future stability.

Ending a 15-hour visit to Romania, the official, Richard C. Holbrooke, said Central European countries "should not be obsessed by trying to rectify real or imagined, and often exaggerated, historical grievances."

"It does no good to visit on the future generations the tragedies of the past," said Mr. Holbrooke, who is assistant secretary of state for European affairs.

Romania is involved in difficult negotiations with two of its neighbors, Hungary and Ukraine.

Progress in talks with Hungary has been slow because of disagreements over the extent of minority rights for 1.7 million ethnic Hungarians in Romania.

With Ukraine Romania has a dispute over an island in the Black Sea, which is believed to have oil and gas reserves. It was once under Romanian control, and the government here is seeking the rights to explore for oil there.

Those issues are examples of problems that affect nearly every country in the region.

Central European countries seeking membership in the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have been told to settle bilateral differences as a condition of membership.

Regarding NATO, Mr. Holbrooke said the process of enlarging the alliance would continue despite Russian protests.

"The United States and our NATO allies have committed us to a policy in December 1994 concerning gradual and careful NATO enlargement," Mr. Holbrooke said. "It will not change whatever the outcome of the political debate in Russia."

"NATO enlargement is for stability in central Europe," he said.

Romania is eager to join the alliance as soon as possible.

Martin Balsam Dies in Rome, Won an Oscar

The Associated Press

ROME — Martin Balsam, 76, a veteran character actor who won an Oscar for "A Thousand Clowns" and appeared in scores of films starting with "On the Waterfront," was found dead Tuesday in a hotel, police said.

Mr. Balsam appeared to have died of natural causes, said Chief Inspector Francesco Fucci. His body was taken to hospital for a preliminary examination.

His body was found on the floor near his bed Tuesday morning at the Ripetta Residence, an upscale, long-term hotel in the center of Rome.

His Italian agent, Vittorio Squillante, said Mr. Balsam had been staying at the hotel for about two weeks while on vacation. Mr. Squillante said he was unaware of any recent health problems.

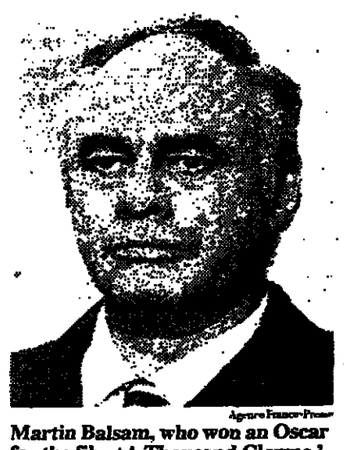
Mr. Balsam brought a tough, regular guy image to many of his movies. They included "Twelve Angry Men," "Marjorie Morningstar," "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "Tora! Tora! Tora!" and "The Taking of Pelham One Two Three."

He won an Academy Award as best supporting actor in the 1965 movie "A Thousand Clowns," playing the stuffy brother to a nonconformist Jason Robards.

He was particularly memorable as the detective who met a nasty end in Alfred Hitchcock's film "Psycho."

He won a Tony Award for his role in the play "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running." His hundreds of television appearance included a regular role as Archie Bunker's Jewish business partner in the 1979-81 series "Archie Bunker's Place."

Born in the Bronx, in New York City, Mr. Balsam studied at the Actors Studio, where Lee Strasberg taught "method" acting to stars like Marlon Brando, Paul Newman and Rod Steiger.



Agence France-Presse

Martin Balsam, who won an Oscar for the film 'A Thousand Clowns.'

Italian Cleared Of 14 Murders

Reuters

FLORENCE — An appeals court exonerated an elderly farm laborer Tuesday of 14 killings attributed to a murderer dubbed "The Monster of Florence," news agencies in Italy reported.

Pietro Pacciani, 70, was convicted of seven double murders in 1994, but has repeatedly protested his innocence.

He had been sentenced to life in prison for the killings, carried out between 1974 and 1985 in isolated countryside locations around Florence. Four of the dead were foreign tourists and all but two of the victims were courting couples.

Doubt was cast on the conviction when a prosecutor, Piero Tony, who carried out an independent review of the evidence, said last week that he believed the prosecution's case was unsound.

The prosecutor recommended that the court either allow new forensic tests on a vital piece of evidence at the trial or reverse the conviction.

Sergei Sapinsky/Agence France-Presse

THE WAY IS CLEAR — A worker breaking ice Tuesday in Ekaterinburg, Russia, in preparation for a visit by President Boris N. Yeltsin, who is expected to announce in his hometown whether he will run again.

BOSNIA: *Tribunal Acts*

Continued from Page 1

them formally on war-crimes charges within weeks.

If the two officers do not invoke their right to remain silent, tribunal investigators said, they could yield potentially explosive information that could help determine to what extent the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, and senior officers in the Yugoslav National Army may have orchestrated the Bosnian war from Belgrade.

General Djordje Djukic supervised supplies to the Bosnian Serb units that besieged Sarajevo for nearly four years. He is believed to have known the various channels that Serbia used to keep the Bosnian Serbs equipped in violation of UN sanctions.

General Djukic is also suspected of exploiting Bosnian Muslim war prisoners to dig trenches under perilous conditions near the front lines and to repair heavy weapons that shelled the Bosnian capital, according to tribunal sources.

General Djukic and one of his officers, Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic, were captured Jan. 30 by Bosnian government soldiers after making a wrong turn on a highway west of Sarajevo. A week later, Mr. Goldstone sent a request saying that evidence of war crimes was "sufficiently serious" to warrant holding them for extradition to The Hague.

But the two officers were only put aboard a NATO plane for delivery to the tribunal's prison near The Hague once the U.S. envoy, Richard C. Holbrooke, the chief architect of the Dayton peace accords on ending the war, had clarified "new rules of the road" among the rival factions.

Those rules now say only those suspects already indicted for war crimes can be arrested and turned over to the peacekeeping force for extradition. But Mr. Chartier insisted that any lack of formal indictments would not stop the tribunal from asking the various factions or the international peace force itself to detain a suspect in "*provisional custody.*" That is what occurred with the two Bosnian Serb officers.

The tribunal has indicted 52 people — 45 Serbs and 7 Croats — for crimes against humanity or acts of genocide committed during the Bosnian war. Only one, Dusan Tadic, a Bosnian Serb accused of torturing and killing Muslim and Croat detainees, is in custody and awaiting trial.

Seeking to respond to NATO complaints that the peacekeeping force was not equipped to recognize those suspects still at large, Mr. Chartier said the tribunal was assembling information kits, including every scrap of information it could find to help the troops identify all those wanted for war crimes.

He acknowledged that the tribunal had only sketchy information in some instances and had assembled photographs of only 16 of the 52 indicted suspects.

But he stressed that American promises to be more generous in sharing intelligence data with the tribunal should soon yield more information that could be useful in identifying those sought under international arrest warrants.

Detained Serbs Linked To Forced Labor Units

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

VIENNA — General Djordje Dzukic and Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic, Bosnian Serb officers who are being held for questioning in Holland by the war crimes tribunal, were involved in establishing forced labor teams to repair heavy weapons that were used to shell Sarajevo, according to a war crimes investigator.

The investigator said the officers' connection to forced labor units was just one of the areas that the tribunal would examine.

Both men were assigned to the Sarajevo-Romanija Corps, a formation that took part in the three-and-a-half-year siege of Sarajevo. General Dzukic was the chief of supplies for the corps, and Colonel Krsmanovic was his subordinate.

"There have been situations when Bosnian soldiers or civilians were forced by the Serbs into slave labor, which is clearly a war crime under the Geneva convention," the investigator said.

"A lot of that work involved maintaining Serb weapons," he said. "Dzukic was the commander of those supply and maintenance units. He had responsibility over what went on beneath him."

The general also had close links to the former Yugoslav People's Army and was in a position to know of arms transfers. "He is a direct link to what type of supplies were coming from the army at a time when the embargo prohibited things from coming," the investigator said.

OPERA: *A Backstage 'Soap'*

Continued from Page 1

sensus that the programs represent a public relations disaster for the opera house, a hilarious tragicomedy of petulance and mismanagement," wrote the critic Thomas Sutcliffe in The Independent.

"The House" is the result of 12 months of filming during the 1993-94 season.

Anything that happened — board meetings, union negotiations, unkind personal asides, costume designers frantically sewing little wings onto tutus — was fair game for the cameras. Although opera officials saw an advance screening, they were allowed to change only details that were factually incorrect.

There is evidence that many of the people who appear in the film have been embarrassed by it. Mr. Cooper, portrayed as the villain of the piece, has had to contend with people on the street calling him "a pig."

Mr. Nunn, wounded by Sir James's "bastard" comment, told the British press: "I find it astonishing that a complex organization should encourage the making of such a documentary, which by definition must be partial."

But Mr. Cooper said in an interview that there might have been good reasons for letting the cameras in.

"Clearly a lot of people didn't understand how difficult it was to put opera and ballet on in the current financial climate," he said. "Also, in the sense that we do receive a large amount of public subsidy money, we did feel it was a way of being accountable to the public."

The house itself might have the last laugh after all. Nearly three million viewers have watched each weekly installment so far, about six times as many as the usual audience for a BBC broadcast of a ballet or opera. With each show Mr. Cooper said, some 500 people sign up for Covent Garden's subscription list.

IOWA: *2 Foes Down for Dole, but 2 More Ahead*

Continued from Page 1

the next week as the real threat to Mr. Dole. Mr. Moore said that "with the kind of favorable ratings Alexander has and with his campaign peaking at the right time, he probably has stronger legs than Buchanan."

Mr. Chervinsky said that New Hampshire "is mirroring what happened in Iowa," with Mr. Forbes steadily losing support and Mr. Alexander increasingly translating his favorable ratings into votes.

Tom Rath, a former New Hampshire attorney general and key Alexander strategist, said: "This is the best night of the campaign to date. New Hampshire, far more than Iowa, wants to back a candidate who can win in November, and that is the strength of Lamar's case."

Ed Goeas, a Republican pollster not working for any presidential candidate, underlined that analysis. "The real winner here may be Alexander," he said. "He looks like the alternative for people who wonder if Dole can beat Bill Clinton."

But Mr. Goeas also cautioned that it may be "too little, too late" for Mr. Alexander or anyone else to catch Mr. Dole. Almost three-quarters of the Republican delegates will be chosen between now and March 26, leaving little time for fund-raising for the Buchanan and Alexander campaigns.

Some New Hampshire Republican officials said they were not writing off Mr. Forbes as a factor in their state, where the Christian Coalition and anti-abortion groups exercise less sway than they do in Iowa. But Mr. Chervinsky said his polls showed that Mr. Forbes now had joined Mr. Buchanan in the unenviable position of having higher disapproval than approval scores there.

As for Mr. Gramm, New Hampshire and national Republican leaders alike said his once-promising campaign had apparently collapsed.

After an upset loss to Mr. Buchanan in the Louisiana caucuses and a fifth-place finish in Iowa, "I don't know" if Mr. Gramm can continue, said Senator Bob Smith, the chairman of Mr. Gramm's New Hampshire campaign.

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NORWAY	N. KR.	3,500	[illegible]	1,050
PORTUGAL	ESC.	51,000	[illegible]	15,500
SPAIN	PTAS.	55,000	[illegible]	16,500
SWEDEN	S. KR.	3,500	[illegible]	1,000
SWITZERLAND	S. FR.	610	[illegible]	185
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Keep Up the Progress

After 17 months of slow but promising progress toward peace in Northern Ireland, the Irish Republican Army set off a truckload of explosives on Friday, killing two and wounding scores of Londoners. Hopes as well as buildings were destroyed. John Hume, leader of the nonviolent Catholic party in the North, who deserves most of the credit for bringing about the recent cease-fire, expressed the general dismay: "I'm totally shattered." So are many Americans, including the Clinton administration officials from the president down who had worked for an Irish peace.

There is absolutely no justification for this terrible violence. It is as cowardly as the Oklahoma City bombing, and as deserving of condemnation. If the killers believe that they can intimidate any of the responsible parties to the negotiations, or win over public support in England and Ireland by these tactics, they are fools as well as terrorists. Too much is at stake for everyone involved — not just political leaders and negotiators but the ordinary people of Northern Ireland, who have now had a taste of peaceful streets and prosperous shops — to move away from reconciliation because of the act of a violent few.

How did such a promising situation deteriorate so disastrously? It is true that all-party talks had been stymied by preconditions. In the past few months, these included a British demand that all IRA arms be decommissioned as a condition of negotiations. An international team led by former U.S. Senator George Mitchell recommended incremental disarmament, which appeared to be a good, face-saving solution. But British Prime Minister John Major then proposed an election in the North, with all nonviolent parties choosing delegates to a peace conference. Dublin characterized that new condition as a surprise but did not reject it outright. The IRA, however, apparently took it as a stalling tactic, citing Mr. Major's precarious margin in Parliament and his need to hold the votes of nine Ulster members.

The Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams claims that he had no advance knowledge of this specific disaster. He says, "The responsibility for that explosion lies squarely with the IRA." Yet he has not condemned the violence. Will he be accepted back to the peace table in these circumstances? And if he is, does he truly have any influence over the IRA or any claim to speak for it? Both London and Dublin reiterated on Monday their intention to return to the peace process and to welcome all parties that condemn violence. That is a brave and resolute position, but after the weekend's terrible setback a more difficult task than ever.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Anti-Immigrant Xenophobia Around the World

By Paul J. Smith

HONOLULU — When historians look back on 1995, they will view it as a critical turning point in an era of growing international migration. It was a year in which the backlash against immigrants, once believed to be a xenophobic reaction limited to rich, industrialized countries, went global.

Throughout the world, in developing and developed countries alike, immigrants are the target of fierce campaigns to track, persecute and ultimately drive them away. Developing nations that once complained about European or North American anti-immigrant policies are now meting out the same treatment to their own immigrants.

The backlash in Africa demonstrates the "equal opportunity" nature of anti-immigrant xenophobia. Last year many countries there launched major crackdowns against unwanted entrants. Libya deported tens of thousands of African migrant workers after blaming them for "spreading AIDS and stealing jobs." Gabon completed an anti-immigrant sweep in March in which more than 50,000 migrant workers were forced to flee the country, many on overcrowded boats.

In Zambia, government leaders have blamed immigrants for "plundering" the country. Ethiopia, Kenya and Congo have launched campaigns against unwanted foreigners. South Africa has declared illegal immigration from neighboring Mozambique, Zimbabwe and other countries to be a national security threat and has deployed its army to stop the influx.

Rising unemployment in the Middle East is leading many countries there to turn against immigrants. Saudi Arabia expelled tens of thousands last year, while Bahrain raised work permit fees to limit the number of foreign workers. Defense planners in the United Arab Emirates have warned that illegal immigration, along with drug smuggling, is a more serious long-term threat than the "dangers posed by either Iran or Iraq."

Even in East Asia, where much of the region is enjoying an economic boom, there have been crackdowns against immigrants out of fear that temporary labor migration could become permanent settlement. Despite a heavy dependence on foreign labor, Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, Thailand and other countries in the region have applied strict rules against unwanted foreign workers. Those in Hong Kong, for example, face mandatory jail sentence.

South Asian countries are similarly keen on restricting the problem. Pakistan, which describes illegal immigrants as an "economic and security threat," launched a major crackdown against them in 1995. Subsequently the government announced 10-year jail sentences for those found to be working in the country illegally.

India, too, is becoming unfriendly toward foreigners. Last spring, when a right-wing political alliance between the Shiv Sena Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party took control of Maharashtra — which includes the country's main commercial center, Bombay — it quickly drafted plans to accelerate the deportation of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and Pakistan.

Nativist sentiment is on the rise as well in Latin America. The government and labor leaders in Argentina blame illegal immigrants for the country's unemployment woes, while Venezuelan officials have complained about the "permanent" invasion of foreigners into their capital. Mexico, Panama and El Salvador — countries quick to condemn anti-immigrant sentiment in the United States — each deported hundreds of illegal settlers last year.

Authorities in Russia complain that their country is being "swamped" by Third World immigrants. Ever fearful of a Chinese migrant invasion of its Far Eastern region, Russia has launched periodic sweeps, including "Operation Foreigner," which ended in 1995 and resulted in the deportation of more than 7,000 Chinese found to have entered the country illegally.

Throughout Western Europe, states are raising barriers against all immigrants. Even traditionally tolerant European nations like Italy, Switzerland and Norway have climbed onto the anti-foreigner bandwagon.

Across the Atlantic, American lawmakers are debating some of the most restrictive legislation in decades to limit both legal and illegal immigration. Foreigners in Canada are also feeling increasingly unwelcome. When Quebec separatists lost a referendum to secede from Canada last year, they promptly blamed immigrants and the "ethnic vote" for their loss.

The increasing global backlash signifies that international migration cannot be viewed as merely a problem between rich and poor countries. Any honest discussion of the problem must recognize that nativism and xenophobia are characteristics found in abundance throughout the world.

But the rising anti-immigrant tide also reflects the emergence of international migration as the most serious social and political crisis of the 1990s, one that is certain to worsen as population pressures, unemployment and economic disparities between countries become ever more acute.

In 1993, the UN Population Fund asserted in its annual report that international migration "could become the human crisis of our age." A quick glance at the rising backlash against immigrants around the globe suggests that this has already become reality.

The writer, an adjunct fellow with the Pacific Forum/CSIS in Honolulu, directs the forum's project on migrant trafficking. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Korean Questions

The American response to North Korea's appeal for food aid is a judgment call, but a reasonable one. Stricken by floods, the pariah Communist regime made a rare confession of dependency. South Korea sent a ship, only to have North Korea insist that it fly a North Korean flag. The United States offered $2 million through the UN World Food Program, a token primarily of the prime American interest in restricting North Korea's nuclear bomb program. The South Koreans suggested that the American gift be conditioned on the North opening up direct talks with the South. The Americans saw a mismatch and proceeded without the condition. The deal jangled nerves in South Korea, while North Korea sent its thanks.

Certainly North Korea can see the United States and its South Korean and Japanese allies reaching to close down a nuclear program whose purpose they regard as anything but benign. Whether North Korea is in fact cooperating in this American-led effort or cheating won't be known conclusively for years. In any event, the North is proceeding in the evident hope that an opening to the West will bring it security and economic progress without eroding hardline Communist rule. Virtually everyone else hopes the opposite.

As, still, the principal arbiter of regional security in East Asia, America has an immense stake in bringing the isolated and dangerous North Korean dictatorship into a "soft landing" of accommodation with its neighbors. This is the purpose for which the United States undertook to bargain North Korea out of its suspected nuclear status.

In doing so, however, Washington has to be careful to stay in step with the wary neighbors, in the first instance South Korea. The South lives in permanent anxiety that the Americans will make a separate deal with the North, paying it an excessive political price for giving up — worst of all, pretending to give up — a nuclear arsenal. This is how South Korea, always jittery about Japan and always thinking ahead, comes to nurse an option of switching alliances and taking up close ties with China.

In short, a sinuous logic ties small decisions such as aid to North Korea to large questions involving the whole future of the region. The people who live there are sensitive to the stakes, and so must Americans be.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

The Dayton Pact Endorses Outlawed Ethnic Abuse in Bosnia

By Aaron Rhodes

VIENNA — The Dayton agreement, in halting open hostilities, provides the people of Bosnia with the chance to shape their own future, protected at least for a year by NATO soldiers and monitored by fair-minded observers from abroad. The world has welcomed even a tentative form of peace, despite the limitation on the guarantee of the cease-fire to 12 months, two of which have past.

But an insufficiently recognized aspect of the agreement — the ethnic mandates within it — bids fair to plague not only Bosnia but also the rest of Europe for decades to come.

According to the agreement, as negotiated by American diplomats: "The presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall consist of three members: one [Bosnian] and one Croat, each directly elected from the territory of the [Muslim-Croat] Federation, and one Serb directly elected from the territory of the Republika Srpska."

One would be hard-pressed to find another country in the world bound by an internationally brokered agreement that enforces ethnic discrimination in the election of public officials.

For example, a Bosnian of Serbian background, living in Sarajevo, is legally prohibited from election to the presidency of the country. A Muslim in Banja Luka suffers the same discrimination.

The rules reflect the assumption that one must be of the same ethnicity as the majority to lead the community. They legitimate ethnic majoritarianism and constitute a form of electoral apartheid.

The arrangement was settled on as a result of a good-faith effort to stop the slaughter. It satisfied three nationalist leaders, two of them the presidents of neighboring states that have, for all practical purposes, occupied parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina. As far as getting a truce signed goes, it seems to have worked.

But it embodies a dilemma that is a problem not only for Bosnia but for all the countries sharing the human rights values articulated in the Helsinki agreements.

Bosnia-Herzegovina is a participating State in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. OSCE signatories have agreed to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity and religion, in a number of politically binding commitments — for example, the Helsinki decisions of 1992.

In 1990, the participating states agreed to respect the right of citizens to seek public office "without discrimination." That document is attached to the Dayton agreement.

The constitution of the Muslim-Croat Federation, established in 1994, protects the people of the country against discrimination, providing for enjoyment of the rights protected by a number of international agreements. These agreements include the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which specifically prohibits any racial discrimination preventing a person from "standing for election" or "taking part in government."

The constitution of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which is part of the Dayton agreement, also provides for protection against discrimination, contrary to the rules in the agreement governing the elections.

Human rights defenders in Bosnia-Herzegovina are appalled that the price paid for peace is acquiescence to the concept of "ethnic states" and, even worse, ethnic societies.

According to Srdjan Dizdarevic, chairman of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the dominant role of nationality in the Dayton agreement is leading to policies under which the human rights situation in Bosnia today is in many respects worse than during the open hostilities.

Leaders of the Croat and Serb national councils of Bosnia, both of which oppose the nationalistic, authoritarian policies of the regimes in Croatia and Serbia, agree: The Dayton agreement is now the basis for moving further toward the creation of ethnically pure states, with the assistance of international sponsors.

In the zone controlled by the Bosnian government, non-Muslims have been dismissed from many public positions with no explanation. For example, of 560 municipal employees in Sarajevo, only 22 Croats remain after numerous firings, which occurred after the Bosnian-Croat Federation was formed by the Washington agreement in April 1994.

Members of the Croat National Council note that similar discrimination has been affecting Muslims in the sectors of the federation controlled by Croats.

While the Dayton agreement allows refugees and displaced people to return to their homes, in Bosnia they were given only 15 days after approval of the agreement to claim their property. Of course, many of the refugees were not even aware of the agreement by that deadline. Many of the 10,000 families that want to return to Sarajevo have been living in European camps and could not comply.

Among non-Muslims in Sarajevo, it is believed by many that the government does not want to help refugees return, because to do so would be to displace from their homes those who are loyal to the ruling party. There is no confidence that the right of an individual to own property is recognized and protected by the state.

In fact, the concept of individual rights, deeply retarded in any formerly socialist country, has been all but obliterated in Bosnia. Preoccupation with the rights of ethnic groups reflects the transition from socialist to nationalist collectivism.

The problem is also reflected in the struggle for economic reconstruction and recovery. The general manager of what was the largest company in Yugoslavia, based in Sarajevo, was reportedly sacked because he was not a good enough Muslim.

The ruling party is tightening its hold on the small region it controls after years of bloody aggression, both politically and culturally. It is an unpleasant turn of events for the country's well-educated citizens, and for those of mixed parentage who make up more than 20 percent of the population.

More than 12,500 intellectuals and other highly trained persons have left Bosnia. Universities, hospitals and other institutions, already decimated by the war, are suffering from brain drain driven by disgust with the prospect of life in a one-party, nationalist state.

Independent media, some of which, like NTV Studio 99, try to be bulwarks against nationalistic intolerance by giving voice to independent viewpoints, are coming under the kind of pressure that has almost driven such media out of business in Croatia and Serbia.

In brief, the ethnic mandates in the Dayton agreement contradict basic human rights principles embraced in international documents that the "entities" claim to accept. The coming elections are likely to reinforce the positions of those seeking security in ethnic purity. It is hard to imagine how individual and minority rights can be protected under such conditions. But we must try.

The writer, executive director of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Making Dayton Work

The Bosnian peace agreement seems to have weathered its first serious challenge, a dispute between the Bosnian government and Bosnian Serbs over the handling of war crimes investigations. A sensible resolution outlined on Monday by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke offers hope that the commitments from all sides to end the Balkan war will nourish the peace accord in the difficult days ahead.

The dispute began two weeks ago, when the government arrested two top aides to the Bosnian Serb military commander, Ratko Mladic, as suspected war criminals. General Mladic, himself indicted for war crimes, reacted by ordering his forces to halt cooperation with the government and with NATO peacekeeping forces.

At the request of Mr. Holbrooke, the Muslim-led government wisely agreed on Monday to limit future arrests to cases in which the international war crimes tribunal at The Hague has had a chance to review the evidence in advance and has certified that the charges are well-founded. This compromise preserves the principle of holding war criminals accountable for their actions. But it also builds in useful safeguards and ought to serve as a model for all sides.

Given the emotional scars of the war and the volatile conditions still prevailing in much of Bosnia, there is a danger that war crimes prosecutions and arrests could be motivated by retaliation and revenge. Letting the international tribunal evaluate the evidence submitted by all sides before any arrest can help the formerly warring parties build confidence in each other. That kind of confidence is a primary requirement for peace in the long term.

General Mladic's orders to suspend communications with NATO, which violated the Dayton peace agreement, were never fully carried out. In an encouraging development, they were countermanded by the Bosnian Serb political leadership, with the tacit encouragement of Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic. (Mladic loyalists, however, are still refusing to cooperate with the Bosnian Muslim-Croat federation.) This deference to the peace agreement by Bosnian Serb political leaders is especially encouraging, since it contrasts with their sullen attitude before the NATO mission began. The government's willingness to compromise is equally welcome.

While Mr. Holbrooke was resolving this problem, NATO foolishly decided that its soldiers would not detain indicted war criminals encountered by troops in the course of their other duties. NATO need not commit its troops to hunt down war crimes suspects, but it does have an obligation under the Dayton agreement and international law to detain those already indicted by the tribunal should its troops encounter them by chance. The NATO policy, which looks suspiciously like a trade-off for Bosnian Serb cooperation with Mr. Holbrooke, should be reversed.

The Dayton peace agreement can succeed only if NATO forces fully uphold its principles and if all Bosnian parties begin to establish a level of trust that will permit them to live side by side peacefully within a single state after the NATO troops leave.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Southeast Asia Should Rethink Refugee Policy

By Dennis McNamara

BANGKOK — In the next few months, the tragic 20-year epilogue of the Vietnam War may finally end. Nearly 2 million Indochinese fled Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos as a result of events triggered by the fall of Saigon in 1975. Possibly thousands died at sea. Hundreds of thousands spent unproductive years in detention camps throughout East Asia.

As the last 40,000 boat people remaining in the area prepare to return home, it is timely for governments, particularly member states of the Association of South East Asian Nations, to take stock of the experience and prepare for the future. Developments around the world suggest, unfortunately, that refugee problems will not disappear and may recur on an even larger scale.

Southest Asia has matured economically, but it has lagged behind other areas of the world in formally accepting the 1951 UN Refugee Convention.

The Indochinese refugee crisis should have proved the value of handling refugee matters within an international legal framework, in concert with the world community.

Other countries — primarily the United States and its European and Australasian allies — offered permanent asylum to more than 1.2 million Indochinese and spent billions of dollars to integrate them into their societies. These same nations donated the $1.5 billion that the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees spent on supporting the Indochinese refugee program.

Much of that largesse sprang from anti-Communist fervor and feelings of Western guilt over the Vietnam War. The massive international response is unlikely to be repeated. But the world community has systematically shared regional burdens elsewhere — in Africa, Europe and Latin America — when local states showed a willingness to abide by international rules.

Southeast Asia has accepted international business law as an essential part of its development into the world's fastest-growing regional economy. Other countries are likely to be more willing to share any future refugee burdens in Southeast Asia if states in the region speak the common language and follow common principles found in the international law of human rights and refugee protection.

Southeast Asia's legitimate security and cultural concerns should not be ignored. Yet at the height of the Cold War those fleeing persecution in Communist Eastern Europe generally found permanent asylum, consistent with international principles, in the West.

The vast majority of victims of the ideological wars in Central America gained refuge among their neighbors.

The only sizable group of Indochinese to find new homes in East Asia were Vietnamese of Chinese descent, 280,000 of whom received permanent asylum in China, and lowland Lao who merged into Thailand's northern Lao communities.

The countries of the region were able to resolve the crisis only by adopting some of the refugee concepts followed by the rest of the world. In 1979, Southeast Asia learned the value of burden-sharing.

At the world's biggest refugee conference since the end of World War II, 68 governments worked out a coordinated plan in Geneva which, much like free trade, benefited all by allowing each country to contribute according to its strengths. America and other Western nations pledged mon-ey and resettlement places; the Philippines and Indonesia pro-mised temporary processing centers; Vietnam agreed to orderly departure by air of its citizens; the UNHCR contributed its expertise in managing holding camps for displaced persons and reuniting families.

With global backing and assistance, ASEAN countries were able to worry less about the security threat. They reduced measures that denied displaced Indochinese temporary access or forced them to return home against their will.

Ten years later, ASEAN countries once again found a solution in international law to the continuing outflow of Indochinese. By 1989, their fears of communism had been replaced by concern about a magnet effect — that resettling the boat people in the West would continue to attract a stream of illegal economic migrants.

Under a 1989 Comprehensive Plan of Action, ASEAN states with UNHCR assistance avoided this potential pitfall by screening new arrivals according to established international refugee law principles under the 1951 UN convention.

Only those judged to have a well-founded fear of persecution were eligible for resettlement in third countries; the rest stayed in the camps and are now returning home, with the support of Vietnam and Laos. ASEAN countries were able to reduce the refugee population to a manageable size and control the flow of economic migrants without endangering lives.

The scheme encouraged potential Indochinese adventurers to stay at home. When it became apparent that the door to resettlement nations such as the United States, Canada and Australia was closing, fewer Indochinese calculated that the limited opportunity was worth the cost and risk of escape.

Two-thirds of UN members are party to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention. The Philippines is the only ASEAN member to have signed on, and it has still to apply the treaty's provisions.

The international refugee framework lets governments act humanely while separating valid security and immigration concerns from broader humanitarian obligations. Governments must, and generally do, protect those who would face serious persecution or danger if forced to return home. Such basic compassion is the foundation not only of international refugee law but of all civilized societies and major religions.

Refugee law contains important safeguards for states. The UN convention specifically allows governments to expel refugees who may reasonably be seen as a security threat. People who leave home only in search of better jobs do not qualify as refugees and can be sent home.

If ASEAN wants to take its proper place in the international humanitarian order, it needs to subscribe formally to the humanitarian laws and principles that helped it through the difficult period after 1975.

The writer, director of international protection with the UNHCR in Geneva, contributed this personal comment to the International Herald Tribune.

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IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Free Bulgaria

ST. PETERSBURG — The Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs has given an interview which answers all important questions that European diplomatists are asking regarding the future of Bulgaria. In the course of his remarks, the Minister said: "Bulgarians suffered much at the estrangement with Russia, but they never doubted Russia's good will, and are now profoundly touched at the Tsar's magnanimity ... Our country will always be grateful to Russia if she continues to encourage pursuit of our independence ... The independence of Bulgaria corresponds with the intentions of Russia and the interests of peace and of Bulgaria herself."

1921: Hoovers First

GRAND RAPIDS — "They tried everything on me first," said Mrs. Herbert Hoover here to-day [Feb. 13]. "If I bore up under the experiment then they tried it on the rest of America. If there was a sugar shortage, they cut off my table for a month before the rest of the cotintry. I had wheatless, meatless and other "less" days."

1946: Calcutta Riots

CALCUTTA — Gunfire clashes between military units and mobs continued here today [Feb. 13]. Troops were reported to have opened fire on at least five occasions. It was said thirty-two persons were injured. The total death toll now stands at twenty-two, with 232 injured. The rioting broke out Monday [Feb. 11] following mass meetings of protest against the prison sentence meted out recently to Captain Abdul Rashid, a former officer of the Indian National Army. The original sentence of exile for life was later commuted to seven years' imprisonment.

هذا من الأصل

OPINION/LETTERS

Clinton Is Coy on Plans For His Wife's 2d Term

By A. M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK — If President Bill Clinton is re-elected, will he again appoint his wife to take over a major area of American government policy?

We now have the answer to that question, impeccably sourced, in fact two answers.

One: Absolutely. He thinks she got a bum rap for the fiasco of the health care policy team she headed, that the mistakes had nothing to do with her but were his responsibility. So she might again get stewardship of major policy. That would be up to her.

Answer two: He has given no thought to that, one way or the other. It has not even crossed his mind.

The source for both answers, the second delivered immediately after the first, was President Clinton, in an interview with The Washington Post. They tell us that if he loses, the man most likely to have defeated Bill Clinton will be Bill Clinton.

The first answer shows that the Clintons still do not seem to get it. The historic fault of the Clintons was not that she made a mess of the health care study, with her closed meetings and the huge report that just lay there like a beached whale. No, the fault was that she and her husband gave her the job at all. It was an evasion of federal anti-nepotism law, a distortion of the constitutional duties and rights of the presidency. And, although the feminist movement does not seem to care much, it was an insult to every woman who did not get her job through a marriage ring, to any woman who is held responsible for her work — she, not her husband. And now he tells us that the next time the decision will not even be his; no, it will be hers.

But hold — is it conceivable they do understand, but will not admit the error of making her the unelected deputy president, health chief over dozens of cabinet members and department heads?

Hillary Rodham Clinton counsels parents on advice to give their children. So we assume that she does not suggest that children admit mistakes and learn from them, nothing so foolish. Stonewall, kids, stonewall.

The refusal to admit error has led them both ever deeper, into the variety of messes they are in. I hope they climb out. But they owe it to the public to acknowledge that skewing of the presidency by giving her vast executive powers was a mistake and will not be repeated.

They are headed in the opposite direction. Which presidential answer are we supposed to believe — the immediate one that he might again appoint her or the swift crawl back that the question never crossed his mind before he said absolutely? Believe that after all the pain that the first appointment brought to them and the government he never gave a thought about whether he would do it again? Certainly we can believe that, provided we have no respect for his intelligence or ours.

Mr. Clinton should be able to win this election. He has the power of incumbency to command the nation's attention and agenda. To put it with considerable politesse, the Republican lineup is not a Super Bowl team. Lucky Bill — the strongest potential candidate, Colin Powell, decided not to run.

But he can throw the election away if he keeps flitting around the flame of public distrust. He promised to fight for human rights, right up to the day he broke his promise. He never would send troops into combat danger in Bosnia. What lost documents of what wife on which table outside whose private quarters? Absolutely, he might name Mrs. Clinton to another policy chieftainship — but wait, it never crossed his mind.

I voted for Mr. Clinton and might again, depending on whom the Republicans come up with. But I will as usual try not to make up my mind until the day comes close. Political journalism is more useful when at least a few of those who commit it do not push their choice but use all the blessed time the law grants to keep thinking it through. Mr. Clinton's danger is that he will lose the undecided who can accept an occasionally inconsistent president but not a consistently inconstant one. If so, after Election Day he will see in his mirror who drove him from the White House.

Here is something that could help prevent that, a mantra. He could practice in private and soon go public: "Yes, I did inhale, which is why I will not again."

The New York Times.

Sick to Death of Billing and Cooing? Take Heart!

By Michael Farquhar

WASHINGTON — Don't you just love Valentine's Day? Neither do we. Today we offer an antidote to all the mush: an homage to two of the most disastrous couplings in history.

First, we have Nero and Agrippina. The porcine Roman emperor of the 1st century A.D. had a succession of singularly unpleasant relationships with women, possibly because he was a feral, sadistic, sexually depraved, homicidal lunatic who happened to enjoy absolute power. This is a recipe for disharmony. Still, you would

MEANWHILE

think he would have found some respect and affection in his heart for Agrippina the Younger, if not because she gave him life then because she helped murder his predecessor to make him Caesar.

But Agrippina crossed the line. She was his mom but she also became his lover, and, in that dual role, she developed into something of a nag. Nero did not take nagging well.

As chronicled by the Roman historian Suetonius, Nero deprived his mother-lover of all honors and power before booting her out of the palace. After she moved, he sent people to her house to torment her with lawsuits and scream insults into her windows. Then he set out to kill her. Three times he tried poison, but she always had the antidote. He rigged her bedroom ceiling so it would collapse while she was sleeping, but some sap warned her in advance.

One time he had a boat sabotaged so it would fall to pieces and sink while Agrippina was sailing on it. Sure this plan would work. Nero happily accompanied his unsuspecting mother down the gangplank. She swam away from the wreck.

Finally, he had her stabbed to death. Exulted over her corpse.

Nero later married Poppaea Salina, the wealthy wife of a Roman knight whom Nero had to kill to make room for himself. Though he doted on her, Poppaea also proved to be a pest. When she had the temerity to complain when he returned home late from the races, the emperor kicked her to death. She was pregnant.

Afterwards, the emperor had an adolescent boy castrated so he could take him as his wife. There was indeed a wedding ceremony, complete with dowry and bridal veil. Then Nero began squiring the unfortunate lad around Rome in the empress's clothes, engaging in repulsive displays of affection.

Eventually, even Rome's notoriously licentious citizenry had enough. Nero was hounded into suicide.

Savage and nutty as he was, though, Nero deserves a little credit. He did banish all mimes from Rome.

Our second loving couple is George IV and Caroline. Among the legendary fiascoes that were British royal marriages, a few stand out as particularly discordant. They make Henry VIII's marriages seem like Al & Tipper Gore's. The 14th-century union between Edward II and his queen, Isabella, for example, was not without its stresses, including the fact that Edward had a stable of perfumed male lovers. Isabella was sufficiently dissatisfied with this arrangement that she invaded England with her lover and had Edward murdered in a particularly distressing way involving a red-hot iron poker.

But the worst of the marriages was between George IV and Caroline of Brunswick, a union doomed before it began. Seems George, Prince of Wales at the time, already had both a mistress and a wife. But the wife was a Catholic, which was a no-no, and George was persuaded to dump her and marry his German cousin, Caroline — under the condition that Parliament pay off his massive debts. It was a horrible price to pay for a clean credit report. Caroline, among other qualities, apparently shared the same royal malady — porphyria — that occasionally drove her Uncle George into babbling fits of insanity.

She was a crude, foul-smelling exhibitionist with an enormous sexual appetite. Harris, Lord Malmesbury, the diplomat given the task of bringing Caroline from Brunswick to marry the prince, described her as having "no acquired morality, and no strong innate notions of its value and necessity" — a reputation she apparently enjoyed all over Germany.

Malmesbury also relates the scene at St. James Palace in 1795 when Caroline was first presented to George. "He turned around, retired to a distant part of the apartment, and, calling me to him, said, 'Harris, I am not well; pray get me a glass of brandy.'"

Three days and many brandies later, the happy couple were married. George spent the wedding night drunk on the floor, with his mistress in close attendance during the entire honeymoon.

Several weeks later, he and Caroline were no longer living as man and wife, although Caroline somehow managed to get pregnant. Having satisfied the purposes of his marriage, siring a legitimate heir and settling his debts, George announced to Caroline a formal separation.

Caroline, however, was not about to go quietly. She took to indecorous public displays of flesh. Basically, she became a flasher. "Oh! what an impudent woman was that Princess of Wales," cried Lady Hester Stanhope. "How many sea-captains used to color up when she danced about, exposing herself like an opera-girl."

Falling in love with her Italian servant, Caroline showered him with titles and honors as they marauded throughout Europe.

Never intending to return to England, Caroline found she had changed her mind upon the death of her husband's father, George III. Never having been officially divorced, she was now the Queen of England, fully intending to serve. The new King George IV had other thoughts, pursuing a divorce through Parliament. A problem arose, however, as it was determined that public sentiment was firmly with Caroline — not so much out of loyalty to her but from deep disdain for him. As a result, Parliament, after some debate, dropped the divorce matter altogether.

George was stuck, but not defeated. When Caroline, looking like a caricature of a queen, arrived at his coronation, the door was slammed shut in her face. Several weeks later she was dead, suffering from acute porphyria.

Not surprisingly, George IV never remarried.

The Washington Post.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No More Debate

Charles Krauthammer *("Now When the Weather Acts Up, You Know Who's to Blame," Opinion, Jan. 23)* takes a legitimate point — that one massive blizzard on the East Coast of the United States cannot be blamed on global warming — and then commits the same sin he accuses the media and environmental community of committing: He proselytizes with fiction.

He supports his views by quoting two scientists who scoff at the assertion that climate change may be causing more extreme weather conditions. He fails to mention, however, that scientists sharing this view are in a minuscule minority, and that they are becoming increasingly marginalized as evidence supporting man-made global warming mounts.

Mr. Krauthammer also ignores the recent report of the International Panel on Climate Change. Released in December, the report concludes that the Earth's rising temperature is due, at least in part, to industrial activity that spews gases into the atmosphere. One likely result of such warming, it concludes, is an increase in severe weather events: The IPCC is made up of more than 2,500 of the most respected scientists from 55 countries. Mr. Krauthammer fails to inform his readers that with the IPCC's landmark report, climate change is no longer a matter of "debate" in the world's scientific community.

PAUL R. EPSTEIN.
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Gut Feelings

Regarding "There's a 'Brain' Behind Gut Feelings" (Leisure, Jan. 25):

For centuries Eastern prophets and philosophers have maintained the existence of a real and primitive brain in the gut.

The followers of Zen Buddhism believe that by shutting off the thinking process, thus separating oneself from the head brain, and by "activating the gut cells" through the right posture and breathing and "by thinking with one's body," one may reach the highest state of consciousness.

It is very satisfying to find, at last, a biological base for centuries-old beliefs.

VICTOR N. OSCODAR.
Anglet, France.

Fulbright Program

A year ago, Senator J. William Fulbright passed away. The Fulbright Exchange Program was arguably his most important legislative work in 30 years in the U.S. Senate. Today, his legacy to international scholarship is in grave danger; proposed 1996 U.S. federal budget cuts threaten to slash the Fulbright budget by 25 percent. This would debilitate most of the Fulbright exchanges at a time when other multinational organizations such as the European Community are increasing their budget for international education.

Most Fulbright programs are funded by a tripartite coalition consisting of the United States, the host country government and private sponsors. U.S. budget cuts would have a negative ripple effect on the other Fulbright funding sources. Host governments would undoubtedly reduce spending to maintain financial parity with the financial commitment of the U.S. government. This in turn would send a negative message to corporate sponsors.

A reduction in the Fulbright budget would send a clear signal that America does not support international academic cultures or ideas. The future of America's leadership and excellence in education would be seriously weakened and its stance as a world leader lessened.

WILLIAM R. AMMERMAN,
Executive Director,
The Fulbright Program
Athens.

BOOKS

TRYING TO SAVE PIGGY SNEED

By John Irving. 432 pages. $21.95. Arcade Publishing.

Reviewed by
Michiko Kakutani

JOHN IRVING'S eclectic new anthology of fiction and nonfiction, bears the same relationship to his eight published novels as a tasting menu does to a restaurant's full-course dinner.

It offers the reader a representative sample of Irving's work that highlights both his weaknesses and his strengths: his fondness for elaborate, tricked-up plots; his penchant for eccentric characters who come to violent or bizarre ends; his Vonnegut-inspired taste for little homilies ("Repetition is boring. And you pay for grace."); and his predilection for cloying cuteness, which manifests itself, most frequently, in a proliferation of fictional bears: circus bears, pet bears, even people in bear suits.

A presiding theme in Irving's best-known novel, "The World According to Garp" (1978), was the relationship between mundane reality and a writer's imagination, and this same theme percolates through the stories and essays in "Piggy Sneed."

In fact, many of the fictional heroes in this collection are given to melodramatic daydreaming that transforms the banal surface of their daily lives into the sort of antic extravaganzas found in Irving's own novels.

The protagonist of a 1980 story called "Interior Spaces," for instance, imagines climbing onto his neighbor's roof to remove the walnuts that have fallen into the rain gutters and immediately envisions the headlines in the morning papers: "Doctor Takes Four-Story Fall! Urologist Beaned by Nut! Career Cut Short by Deadly Tree!"

In the volume's title essay, Irving points out that he is prone to this same sort of imaginative embroidery. "A fiction writer's memory is an especially imperfect provider of detail," he writes, "we can always imagine a better detail than the one we can remember. The correct detail is rarely, exactly, what happened; the most truthful detail is what could have happened, or what should have."

Perhaps this is the very reason Irving proves to be such a boring memoirist. Although the aforementioned "Piggy Sneed" is a small gem of writing, it turns out to be less an act of reminiscence than a carefully contrived meditation on what might have happened to the dim-witted garbage collector Irving knew as a boy in Exeter, New Hampshire, and the transformative powers of art.

In contrast, the real piece of autobiography in this volume, a lengthy reminiscence titled "The Imaginary Girlfriend," is plodding, padded and, with the exception of a few cameo portraits, deadeningly dull.

Half of "The Imaginary Girlfriend" reads like one of those mimeographed letters some people send to relatives at Christmas: it's filled with perfunctory accounts of trips and meals and injuries, all recounted in flat-footed prose.

The other half belongs in an amateur wrestling magazine: it goes on, numbingly, about Irving's youthful wrestling exploits: coaches, tournaments, opponents and weigh-ins. None of this need be boring — think of Joyce Carol Oates' fascinating meditations on boxing — but Irving fails to muster the narrative passion that might communicate his obsession with the sport to the reader.

The other memoir in this volume, "My Dinner at the White House," is even clumsier, portraying the author as sophomoric hypocrite. In this piece and accompanying notes, Irving rails at length against "dangerous and deceitful" Republicans, denouncing Dan Quayle's "bullying idiocy about 'family values'" and blaming right-wing conservatives for "ruining our country."

He nonetheless says he was "shortsighted" in turning down an invitation from Dan Quayle to dine at the White House with a group of select Republicans.

He also goes on, rather gleefully, about the time President George Bush was ill in Japan, what Irving refers to as "the barfing episode" and the "Upchuck in Asia!" bumperstickers it inspired.

This sort of leering adolescent fascination with grossness (which pops up in Irving's novels as well) surfaces again and again in this volume, in a woman's affliction with genital warts in "Interior Spaces," in a riff about pimples in "Brennbar's Rant" and in lengthy asides about a woman's odor in "Weary Kingdom."

In the stronger stories, such passages simply seem like a nervous tic on the part of the author; in the weaker ones, however, they feel like desperate attempts to hold on to the reader's attention.

In his novels, the larger sort of afflictions that Irving throws his characters' way can also feel highly exaggerated: "Garp," alone, numbers among its plot contrivances rape, mutilation, murder and a ghastly car accident that leaves a couple severely injured, one of their sons dead, another half-blinded and a fifth passenger horribly maimed.

In these stories, the fates meted out by Irving aren't half as grisly, though randomness (in the form of cancer, divorce and death) still plays a major role in his characters' lives, reminding them of the booby-trapped nature of the world, its unpredictability and danger.

Although "Garp" and other novels have won Irving a popular following, critics have been somewhat mixed on his work, taking him to task for his improbable storylines, his pedestrian prose and his easy moralism; and in the final section of this book, he responds to such charges.

His response is couched in homages to Charles Dickens and Gunter Grass, two writers whom Irving admires and tries hard to emulate (usually in vain).

Of course, contrary to what Irving says, Dickens needs no defense against charges of sentimentality, melodrama or contrivance; the writer whom Irving is really defending is himself.

Michiko Kakutani is on the staff of The New York Times.

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

FICTION

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4	CONTAGION, by Robin Cook	5	3
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6	THE WEB, by Jonathan Kellerman	6	4
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15	THAT CAMDEN SUMMER, by LaVyrle Spencer		1

NONFICTION

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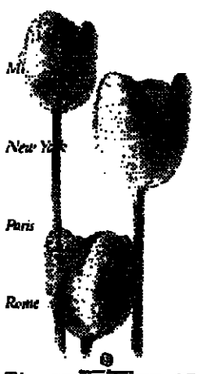

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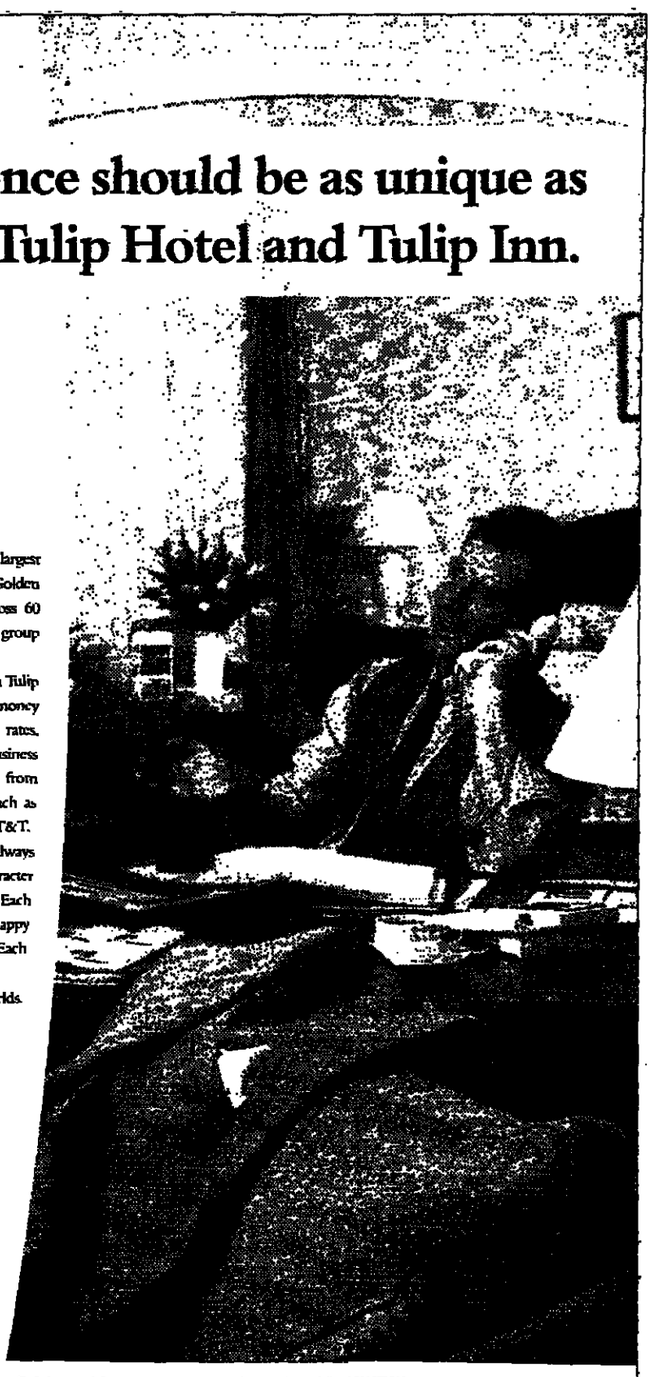

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The Playwright Who Became the Conscience of Belgrade

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

BELGRADE — During the Balkan war, most artists and writers in what was once Yugoslavia used their talents to glorify the ideologies that fuel violence or have found themselves silenced.

But amid the cacophony there has been one artist with enough stature in all six republics of the former Yugoslavia to continue to ridicule the nationalism and triumphalism that comes out of Belgrade, Zagreb and Sarajevo.

Dusan Kovacevic, a quiet, reclusive figure, was Yugoslavia's best-known playwright and screenwriter before the war. One of his plays, "The Professional," which has been running in Belgrade since 1989, was staged by the Circle Repertory Company in New York last year and his film "Underground" won the Palme d'Or at the 1995 Cannes Film Festival. Within the former Yugoslavia his movies have achieved cult status. And the often cynical new generation, which has paid in blood for the nationalist dreams of its leaders, recites lines from his work like mantras.

"Don't let them kill you until we've won," taken from the play "Radovan III," is, like dozens of other lines, part of the vocabulary here.

"He has become our conscience," said Boba Durovic, a leading Belgrade theater director, "although there are a lot of people who would rather not listen."

Kovacevic sat on the edge of a couch, smoking a cigarette, in a small coffee shop in central Belgrade recently. He rarely appears in public, remaining at home with his wife, who is a lawyer, and two children.

"Look across the whole of the former Yugoslavia," he said sadly, "and all you see are works that glorify the nationalist ideologies that have crept up. There has been a terrible corruption of the arts. It reminds me of the Communist rule under Tito. We filmed some 800 movies in the old Yugoslavia after the end of World War II and about 500 of them were about the war. Not a single one was any good. We made stupid movies for 50 years.

"It is happening all over again, only now we have six states producing them. War is a great opportunity for mediocre writers and artists. Art cannot be motivated by hate."

Kovacevic, a 47-year-old Serb, began exploring the violent and self-destructive nature of his society long before it burst onto the world's television screens four years ago. "Radovan III," for example, focuses on a character who is so obsessed with the destruction of his enemies that he ultimately destroys himself.

In "The Professional," his 12th play, he strikes this familiar theme. The two main characters are divided by age, ideology, ethnicity and social circumstances. Teya was a dissident who is now flourishing with the collapse of communism. Luke, a former secret policeman who spied on Teya, has had to deal with the destruction of a world that gave him meaning. He now drives a cab. The two are drawn together by their past relationship, although the men have changed roles. The oppressed has become the oppressor, and the new power structure is as corrupt and immoral as the old.

LIKE Louis-Ferdinand Céline and Edward Albee, Kovacevic insists on plumbing the depths of human despair and depravity with black humor. It is humor, he says, that best points out the incongruity of a people living in economic and political decline but clutching at fantastic myths of past glory and achievement.

He rarely raises political themes directly, writing instead about the intimate relationships between individuals.

"The war that never ends is the war between the parent and the child, the father and the son," he said. "The only solution is love and compassion. In our families we have fought too often over ideologies. Private wars have led to real wars. This is our fate."

Kovacevic is fascinated with the powerful criminal underworld that has risen from the wreckage of communism across Eastern Europe and in Russia. He is now working on a play about the gangsters who he says control the theaters, along with nearly everything else, in Serbia. He describes Belgrade as "like Chicago in the days of Al Capone."

"In Belgrade we have a better class of criminal than we do artist," he said. "We suffer from primitive capitalism and this means we also suffer from primitive art. It all reminds me of Woody Allen's 'Bullets Over Broadway,' where petty mobsters have been handed the control of everything from our factories to our cultural life."

"Power has not changed that much," he went on. "The old Communist bosses are now the new capitalist managers."

Although he is a practicing member of the Eastern Orthodox Church, he has a deep distrust of authority. And he worries that Serbs, Croats and Muslims in the former Yugoslavia have embraced a pattern of self-destruction that, if left unexamined, will lead again to bloodshed.

He says the NATO-led troops deployed to separate the rival factions in Bosnia will have to stay 20 years if they want to prevent another war.

"The main theme of all of my work is the insecurity of the individual before the system," he said.

"It does not matter what the system is called, what ideology it embraces, the distortion done to the individual, the violence carried out by the system against the individual, is always the same and so is the result."

An Elegant Tone Poem by Athol Fugard

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — "Valley Song," the elegiac, elegantplay at the Royal Court by South Africa's prophet-playwright Athol Fugard, is a tone poem for two actors, a meditation on change, on the natural transition from youth to maturity, the balancing act between the old and new.

LONDON THEATER

the root and branch disruptions of a universe suddenly and irrevocably different: from the old order that may not have been fair, or modern, or equitable, but was known, into a more democratic future still being invented, where all the old signposts are missing.

Set in a village too small for maps, it is poised, like South Africa itself, in a world struggling from apartheid to Mandela. Fugard, who directs and plays two of the three characters, demonstrated definitively that his playwright's voice is still clear and true as the chronicler of his country, in good times as well as bad.

He was a prominent white voice against apartheid, but now that the battle has been won, he still ruminates on stage as to how the adjustment will afect those least able to argue for themselves.

His protagonists this time are colored, neither black nor white, a septuagenarian grandfather and his talented granddaughter. All the other members of their family are dead and they love each other with a fierce protectiveness. Buks (Fugard) ekes out a meager living growing pumpkins on a few acres he doesn't own but is connected to by generations of farming them. But now, in this post-Mandela world, a white writer buys those acres and Buks's world is threatened. His best defense, he reckons, is to appease this frightening new entity. But Veronica, full of songs and energy, refuses to wash the white man's floors as her grandmother did, instead she wants to escape Johannesburg and learn to be a professional singer.

The new South Africa gives Veronica choices. Buks wants her to choose for the past, his past, but knows he must let her go, while she is looking toward a future that will leave his world behind forever. Veronica (a luminous Esmerelda Bihl, a young South African in an irresistible performance) craves his blessing. Their confrontation is deeply moving as Buks struggles to understand what Veronica strains to explain.

"Valley Song" is an illustrated short story, told by the third character, the white writer (also played by Fugard on his welcome return to the London stage after 30 years), in language of rare simplicity and compassion, the unresolved conflicts of both the people and the country bound together on mutual love.

Toward the end of "Sweet Panic," Stephen Poliakoff's new play at Hampstead, Mrs. Trevel (Saskia Reeves) says, "Panic is the only intelligent reaction." But reaction to what? The failure of therapy? Our inability to keep ourselves and our children safe form the ravages of change? Technology? Life itself? For most of the first act of this absorbing exercise it looks as though Poliakoff is going to tell us. It also looks as though there's a real play here. But no. He has instead written two fine roles for women — no mean feat itself — and persuaded two of our finest actresses to make it *look* as if he's written a play.

Harriet Walter is Clare, a child psychiatrist who is stalked by the mother of one of her patients, and Saskia Reeves is the possibly deadly housewife who wants ... well, we don't know what she wants. There isn't much wrong with the children in Clare's care (Walters is at her best "doing" those children for us), but the grownups are universally barking, from the mad Mrs. Trevel to the former patient who is obsessed by Clare, to her boring lover whose only passion seems to be London buses, to the patient's father who insists on demonstrating his "instant meals" to Clare, to the catatonically uncommunicative secretary, to Clare herself, always teetering on the edge of control.

Having introduced us to them all in the first act, Poliakoff wastes them in the muddled second, often brilliant but never with a firm enough grasp of what kind of anxiety he wants us to feel. He has not told us enough about any of them and his own production dissipates the sense of menace lurking beneath the surface. But rare among our native playwrights, Poliakoff is always intelligent, always entertaining, often very funny. And he gives two fine actresses the means to exercise their craft even when his plot falls over the cliff into preposterousness.

THE Royal Court's classic series brought a new production of David Storey's "The Changing Room" into the Duke of York's for a nostalgic 25th anniversary look at male bonding on, or rather off, the field of sporting endeavor, circa 1971. Set in the eponymous changing room of a rugby club before, during and after a game in winter, in the days when all rugby was amateur and those who played it were hard men, it exhales the blood and dirt and general discomfort rather than making a convincing argument for the nobility of sport. Seventeen men take off all their clothes and with them their individual identities as they suit up and turn into a team. What strikes me 25 years later is that, in admiring Storey's economical prose and poetic simplicity in 1971 I had singularly failed to notice that nothing at all happens in this play, give or take a broken nose, and a series of character sketches including a jack-the-lad whose idea of a joke is to urinate in the communal bath water.

Ivan Kyncl

A scene from "The Changing Room": A look at male bonding, circa 1971.

Glorious, Overwhelming Berlioz

By David Stevens
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The Conservatoire de Paris has been celebrating its 200th anniversary over the past two months with a series of concerts, exhibitions and publications, culminating Monday in a monumental Berlioz concert in the Zénith in the Parc de la Villette.

That this is a bicentenary refers to the foundation of the Conservatoire on Aug. 3, 1795, by the National Convention. In fact the institution got a running start by absorbing an Ecole Royale de Chant that had been founded in 1784, and a school for military musicians created in 1792.

Gradually beginning about five years ago the CNSMDP — the unpronouncable acronym for the full handle, the Conservatoire National Superieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris — has girded itself for the 21st century by settling into magnificent new quarters on the northeast edge of the city. There it is the central element in the synergetic Cité de la Musique.

The original Conservatoire was shared for more than a century with the Conservatoire d'Art Dramatique. It still is in business, and its dinky concert hall is frequently used for recitals and chamber music. It is hard to believe that this is where Beethoven's Ninth and some of Berlioz's larger works were first heard in Paris.

When that became too small, the Conservatoire de Musique moved in 1913 to a disused Jesuit college near the Gare Saint-Lazare. Its change of venue could hardly be more radical. The current director, Marc-Olivier Dupin, presides over a physical plant whose possibilities could only make his predecessors — Cherubini, Auber, Thomas and Fauré among them — drool with envy.

Most of the concerts of this bicentenary have been small scale events, honoring famous names or organizations associated with the institution, from Cherubini to Messiaen.

For the final blowout, however, something grandiose was called for, and Berlioz — even if he spent most of his life fighting the establishment — was clearly the man of the hour.

The occasion was a concert that comprised the overture to "Benvenuto Cellini," followed by the gigantic, rarely performed "Te Deum," whose finale (Judex crederis) the composer called "without doubt the most grandiose I have produced."

Some 850 musicians, 670 of them in the combined choruses, filled the huge podium. The combined orchestras of the conservatoires of Paris and Lyon were augmented by students of 31 music schools in other countries. The choruses included those of the Orchestre de Paris, Saint-Eustache, the Colonne and the Oratorio de Paris, plus three children's choruses.

The performance, under Sir Colin Davis, surely the pre-eminent Berlioz conductor of the day, with Arthur Oldham in command of the combined choruses, was gloriously overwhelming. No doubt Berlioz's spatial effects worked better at the 1855 premiere in Saint-Eustache, and the acoustics of the Zénith are less than ideal, but they were good enough, and the full house of 5,000 rewarded the performers — including the tenor soloist José Cura — with many curtain calls.

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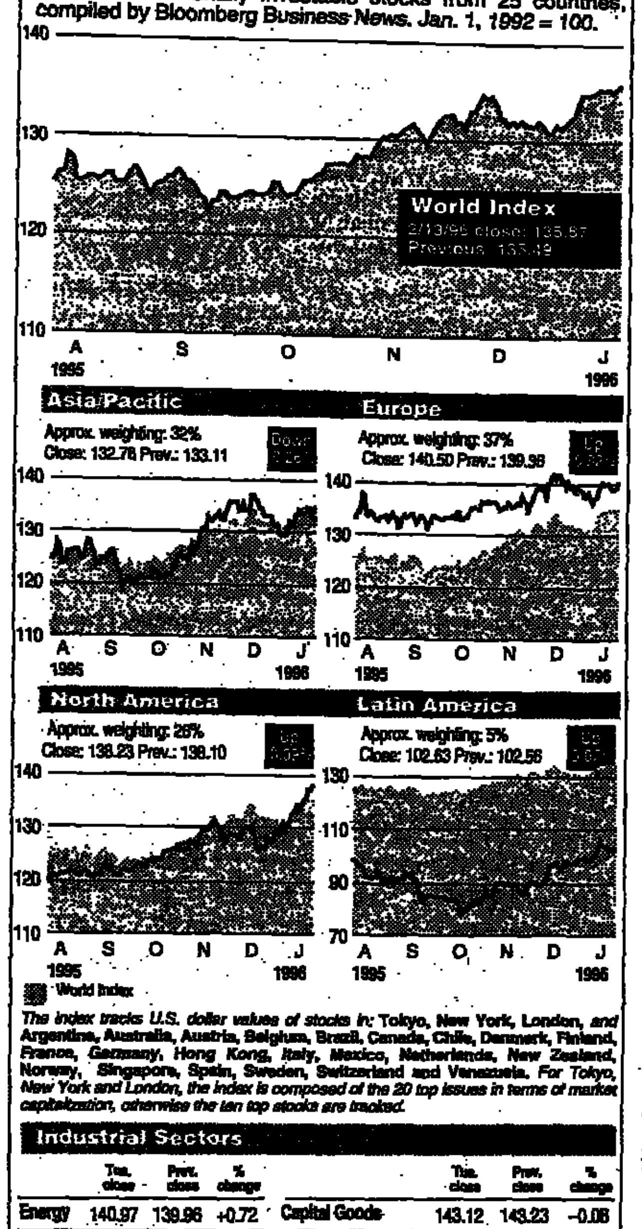

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Tietmeyer: Better Late Than Bad

Bundesbank Chief Posits EMU 'Delay'

International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — The chief of the Bundesbank, Hans Tietmeyer, gingerly entered the debate over delaying Europe's planned monetary union, saying Tuesday that postponing the single-currency project would be better than derailing it once it was under way.

It was the first time that the German had publicly used the term "delay" in discussing monetary union. Previously he had gone out of his way not to appear to be taking part in the debate over whether the single currency should be put off.

"The currency union, once set in motion, cannot be allowed to derail," Mr. Tietmeyer told a seminar on monetary union here. "If necessary, a timetable delay is less problematic than a later derailment."

The mention of delay by Mr. Tietmeyer, a man known for cautious statements, came at the very end of a 20-page prepared speech that cataloged all of the risks that the Bundesbank foresees in monetary union.

But Mr. Tietmeyer did not suggest that a delay beyond the Jan. 1, 1999, target date might be necessary. Rather, he restated the Bundesbank's line that monetary union must strictly conform to the convergence criteria laid out in the Maastricht treaty.

His remarks contributed to the widening debate over a possible delay in the single-currency project. At the same time, they marked an escalation in the central bank's campaign to make the Maastricht economic criteria take precedence over the timetable.

"First and foremost, the convergence criteria must be strictly applied in selecting EMU countries," Mr. Tietmeyer said.

"EMU will probably not start with all EU countries," he added. "The Maastricht treaty envisages a partial monetary union — and I think that's right."

IG Metall Accepts Bonn's Planned Cut In Early Retirement

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Germany moved forward Tuesday in its arduous effort to win social consensus on economic reform with the government's announcement of an overhaul of the public pension system that would end state subsidies for early retirement.

The latest measures will not deliver short-term relief to the stalled German economy, analysts said Tuesday, adding that more immediate progress was likely to come from labor talks set for Thursday.

At those talks, IG Metall, the nation's biggest union, and the Gesamtmetall employers' federation are expected to search for common ground on converting overtime into new jobs.

After IG Metall on Tuesday pronounced itself satisfied with the state pension reforms, a compromise on overtime should bolster chances of its accepting modest pay raises in 1997, analysts said.

Separately, the chief economist at Deutsche Bank AG said Tuesday the German economy would likely shrink in the first quarter and then recover in the second, creating a "minirecession."

Norbert Walter said his bank downgraded its full-year growth forecast to 1.3 percent from 1.7 percent, bringing it below Bonn's projection of 1.5 percent.

Even the bank's less hopeful outlook is fraught with "downside risks," meaning that growth could be even slower if the Deutsche mark rebounds and chokes exports, Mr. Walter said. "This growth forecast is only possible if we have a positive surprise on the fiscal side, a recovery in the U.S. and an upturn in exports," he said.

DIW, a German economic research group, seconded the bank's view with a report saying German gross domestic product would shrink in the first three months of the year.

In talks late Monday led by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, unions won enough concessions to sign onto the changes in the lavish state pension plan.

The cornerstone of the deal is a crackdown on the widespread practice of early retirement, which companies have used as the easiest and cheapest way to lay off workers at taxpayer expense.

Under the plan, Bonn would end state-subsidized early retirement and replace it with part-time retirement with a partial pension.

Unions, which staged massive rallies to add pressure during the talks, wrested a clause allowing workers aged 55 and older to reap the benefits of the old system as long as they have already agreed before Tuesday to take voluntary early retirement. Economists said companies had probably already lined up droves of such candidates in the weeks before the door slammed shut on the system.

The deal also raises the qualifying age for an early-retirement pension to 63 from 60. Workers who insist on full retirement between ages 60 and 63 will have to accept reduced retirement pay.

Early retirement has ripped a deficit of 8 billion Deutsche marks ($5.42 billion) in the public pension fund. Since German reunification, widening deficits have meant increased payroll pension withholdings. Even if Germany's Parliament enacts the government's pension reforms quickly, payroll contributions are expected to rise to nearly 20 percent of gross wages next year from 19.2 percent this year and from 18.6 percent last year.

Labor Minister Norbert Blüm, who led the fight for the reforms, said the corrections in state pensions should yield their first fiscal savings in 1998 at the earliest. By 2003, it should mean an annual saving of 5.5 billion DM, he said.

Hyundai Leaps Into Aerospace

Bloomberg Business News

SEOUL — The Hyundai group of South Korea said Tuesday it would supply $1.1 billion worth of wings to McDonnell Douglas Corp. for a 100-seat aircraft the U.S. manufacturer is developing.

Hyundai also said it would spend $1.5 billion by 1999 to build what it claims will be Asia's largest aerospace-manufacturing complex, in Sosan, in central South Korea. The 660,000-square-meter (6 million-square-foot) plant will produce satellites, helicopters and aircraft parts.

A McDonnell executive in St. Louis, Missouri, confirmed that Hyundai would provide wings for the MD-95, and she told the International Herald Tribune that the value would be in the $1.1 billion range.

The deal was originally between McDonnell Douglas and the Halla business group, whose aircraft division was purchased by Hyundai. That acquisition enabled Hyundai to take over the project.

Hyundai said it would change the name of its unlisted aircraft unit, Hyundai Technology Development Co., to Hyundai Space & Aircraft Co. Hyundai Space & Aircraft will begin late next year supplying the wings to McDonnell Douglas for its MD-95 aircraft, which Hyundai said it was helping develop.

Executives said the moves signaled Hyundai's first major step toward becoming what its new chairman, Chung Mong Koo, described as "an aerospace and aviation powerhouse by the next century."

Analysts were skeptical. "Hyundai is a newcomer in the aircraft industry, where there are already too many players," said Lee Jong Seung of Daewoo Economic Research Institute.

■ **Japan Studies New Plane**

Japan plans a fresh feasibility study on developing the YSX, a 100-seat passenger plane, with a new partner while continuing such a study with Boeing Co, Reuters reported Tuesday from Tokyo.

"We would like to broaden the range of choices and probe various possibilities," an official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said.

Reuter to Exit Daimler

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BONN — Edzard Reuter, the former chairman of Daimler-Benz AG, said Tuesday that he was stepping down from the supervisory board of Germany's largest conglomerate.

The architect of an ambitious expansion program started in the late 1980s, Mr. Reuter, 67, has been repeatedly blamed for many of the company's current problems.

Mr. Reuter, asked by reporters at an unrelated news conference about speculation that he would step down, said, "I have heard the reports, and I can confirm them."

The reports said that some key members of the supervisory board wanted the former chairman to quit before the annual meeting May 22.

Daimler-Benz has said it expects to post a 1995 loss from normal business operations of about 2.2 billion Deutsche marks ($1.49 billion) and a total loss of 6 billion DM.

One supervisory board member, Peter Schönfelder, said he could imagine only that Mr. Reuter was exiting for "personal reasons."

The Critical Daimler Shareholders group described as "pure hypocrisy" what it said had been "an attempt by big holders of Daimler-Benz shares to make Edzard Reuter the sole scapegoat for the group's catastrophic policies."

A representative of the group, which is made up of people with small holdings in the company, called for the resignation of all members of the supervisory board.

Mr. Reuter expanded Daimler-Benz into aerospace, electronics and rail transport at an estimated cost of 9 billion DM. *(Reuters, AFP)*

MEDIA MARKETS

Seeking Life in Multimedia

By Richard Covington
Special to the Herald Tribune

CANNES — The numbers represented by movie audiences sighing over Emma Thompson in "Pride and Prejudice" and television viewers cracking up week after week over the comedy series "Seinfeld" are so far only the stuff of dreams for multimedia publishers.

Despite the fact that new-media publishing is nearly doubling each year and now accounts for close to $1.5 billion of the global publishing industry, a mass audience remains elusive — and not simply because only one-third of American households and far fewer elsewhere have computers.

Bluntly stated, the new media have yet to move audiences in the same way as books, films or television. So far, multimedia titles are minor miracles for research and games, but CD-ROMs that grab the emotions are as rare as a celluloid Hollywood romance without a happy ending.

The latest crop of CD-ROMs tries to tackle just about every subject under the sun and even beyond it — promising a view of the universe from the Mir space station, a top model giving makeup advice, an extraordinarily detailed Cezanne retrospective and a mind-twisting game set amid the terra-cotta army of China's Xian archaeological site.

Apart from CD-ROM titles, there are groundbreaking techniques to send photos and sound clips via audio postcard e-mail from the Japanese software manufacturer Domus Inc., devices to browse the Internet on a television set from Philips Electronics NV and Apple Computer Corp., but little to wrench a tear or a belly laugh from an audience — known as users in the prosaic new-media jargon.

Romain Victor-Pujebet's fairy tale "The Book of Lulu" is one of the rare titles able to draw users into an imaginary realm.

"Lulu" was among the titles previewed this week at an international new-media conference and market in Cannes.

Created for the New York-based publisher Organa, "Lulu" takes the novel approach of making the book itself a hero placed inescapably in the middle of the adventures of a princess and a robot.

"Puppet Motel," a wry, occasionally disturbing journey into the cerebral funhouse of the performance artist Laurie Anderson's mind, poses strangely moving questions about time and mortality while still letting the user laugh aloud at frequently silly touches.

There is a haunting black room filled with chalk "inscriptions" that the cursor seeks out like the discoverer of Tutankhamen's tomb, a nondescript motel room with vibrating bed and a garrulous talking portrait on the wall, and odd violins playing with bows strung with audio tape.

The Taiwanese multimedia developer Hsin-Chien Huang collaborated with Ms. Anderson in this eerie project for the New York-based Voyager Co., one of the earliest producers of new media titles. A French adaptation is being distributed by Editions Gallimard for 300 francs ($59.20).

Although there was no emotional punch in Emmanuel Mazot's virtual-reality tour of Paris, it was among the most intriguing

See CD-ROM, Page 18

Ban Eased On Internet Newsgroups

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — CompuServe Inc. said Tuesday it had reinstated access to all but five of the Internet newsgroups that it blocked in December amid an investigation of on-line pornography by German authorities.

The company also said it would offer a parental-control program that would allow all CompuServe users to restrict access to certain material.

Access was cut off in December to about 200 newsgroups, which are computer forums where users can post text, pictures and sound. The action was taken after prosecutors in Bavaria notified the company it was investigating distributors of sexually explicit material on the Internet.

Bob Massey, president and chief executive officer, said the company's two moves had reaffirmed its "commitment to on-line safety for families" as well as its position that "responsibility for Internet content lies with those who create it or put it on the Internet."

But in Munich, the Justice Ministry said CompuServe would be responsible "if these newsgroups with content that is illegal under German law are made available again."

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates Feb. 13

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl.	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.654	2.5365	1.1196	0.3353	0.1055*	—	5.445*	1.3717	1.545*	1.2065	1.3385*
Brussels	30.3325	46.5275	20.565	5.9815	1.9328*	18.37	—	25.2175	0.2838	22.00	24.41*
Frankfurt	1.4782	2.2615	—	0.2907	0.9394*	0.8932	4.863*	1.2261	1.3796*	1.0748	1.189*
London (a)	1.533	—	2.266	7.3828	2,406.415	2.5359	46.599	1.8491	164.03	2.1035	198.655
Madrid	124.211	190.391	84.137	24.458	7.911*	75.147	4.0916	103.14	116.226*	98.5085	—
Milan	1,565.70	2,399.80	1,063.12	309.30	—	950.80	61.632	1,301.53	14.467	1,141.95	12.648
New York (b)	—	1.5373a	1.4733	5.0715	1,580.00	1.6495	30.29	1.2033	106.765	1.3725	124.08
Paris	5.0065	7.7645	3.44	—	0.3235*	3.0725	0.1603	4.2173	4.7521*	3.7002	4.0665*
Tokyo	107.00	163.72	72.55	21.10	0.682	64.81	3.529	88.91	—	78.05	0.8603
Toronto	1.3732	2.1098	0.9314	0.7706	0.0672*	0.8322	0.4527*	1.2398	1.2849*	—	1.1108*
Zurich	1.202	1.5385	0.8167	0.2372	0.0765*	0.7285	3.9675*	—	1.1264*	0.8767	0.9493*
1 ECU	1.2809	0.8357	1.891	4.5963	2,011.27	2.1172	38.8651	1.5425	136.89	1.759	151.10
1 SDR	1.4594	0.9502	2.1544	7.4315	N.Q.	2.4122	44.2815	1.7578	156.11	N.Q.	181.271

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9996	Greek drac.	243.04	Mex. peso	7.5225	S. Afr. rand	3.6477
Australian $	1.3277	Hong Kong $	7.7319	N. Zealand $	1.4881	S. Kor. won	778.80
Austrian sch.	10.375	Hung. forint	144.49	Norw. krone	6.4465	Swed. krona	6.9327
Brazil real	0.978	Indian rupee	36.077	Phil. peso	26.15	Taiwan $	27.42
Chinese yuan	8.2928	Indo. rupiah	2292.00	Polish zloty	2.55	Thai baht	25.23
Czech koruna	27.14	Irish £	0.6355	Port. escudo	153.21	Turkish lira	63873.0
Danish krone	5.7095	Israeli shek.	3.1412	Russ. ruble	4751.00	UAE dirham	3.671
Egypt. pound	3.3946	Kuw. dinar	0.3012	Saudi riyal	3.7503	Venez. boliv.	408.00
Fin. markka	4.5887	Malay. ring.	2.5468	Sing. $	1.4154		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.5313	1.5301	1.5290	Japanese yen	106.45	106.02	105.63
Canadian dollar	1.3732	1.3735	1.3736	Swiss franc	1.1998	1.1961	1.1929
Deutsche mark	1.4739	1.4714	1.4691				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Agence France-Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

Eurocurrency Deposits Feb. 13

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5¼ - 5⅜	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	1½ - 1⅝	6⅛ - 6⅞	4 9/16 - 4 11/16	⅜ - ½	4 9/16 - 4 11/16
3-month	5 3/16 - 5 5/16	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	1⅝ - 1¾	6 1/16 - 6 3/16	4¼ - 4⅜	½ - ⅝	4⅝ - 4¾
6-month	4 15/16 - 5 1/16	3¼ - 3⅜	1 11/16 - 1 13/16	6⅛ - 6¼	4 5/16 - 4 7/16	½ - ⅝	4 9/16 - 4 11/16
1-year	4 15/16 - 5	3 7/16 - 3 9/16	1⅞ - 2	6⅛ - 6¼	4⅜ - 4½	⅝ - ¾	4 7/16 - 4 9/16

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8¼	8¼
Federal funds	4¾	5⅛
3-month CDs	4.88	4.88
Comm. paper 180 days	6.11	6.11
3 month Treasury bill	4.79	4.80
1-year Treasury bill	4.55	4.56
2-year Treasury note	4.78	4.81
5-year Treasury note	5.13	5.15
7-year Treasury note	5.31	5.33
10-year Treasury note	5.58	5.59
30-year Treasury bond	6.03	6.03
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	5.07	5.06
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.41	0.43
1-month interbank	0.45	0.43
3-month interbank	0.57	0.55
6-month interbank	0.61	0.57
10-year Govt bond	2.85	2.87
Germany		
Lombard rate	5.00	5.00
Call money	3.45	3.45
1-month interbank	3.38	3.38
3-month interbank	3.28	3.28
6-month interbank	3.28	3.29
10-year Bund	6.11	6.12

Britain		
Bank base rate	6¼	6¼
Call money	6⅞	6⅞
1-month interbank	6 5/16	6 5/16
3-month interbank	6 3/16	6 3/16
6-month interbank	6 1/16	6 1/16
10-year Gilt	7.61	7.62
France		
Intervention rate	3.90	3.90
Call money	4⅛	4⅛
1-month interbank	4⅛	4⅛
3-month interbank	4⅛	4⅛
6-month interbank	4⅛	4¼
10-year OAT	6.50	6.76

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo, Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.

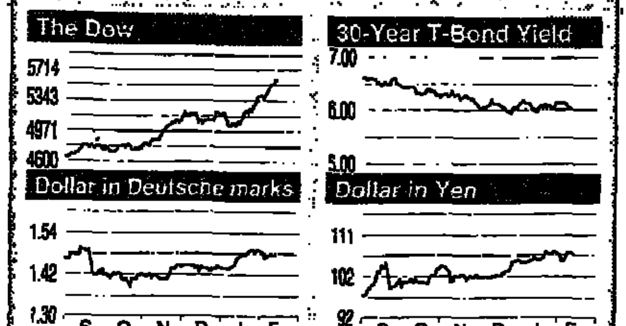
Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	403.25	403.35	-0.10
London	403.00	403.20	-1.30
New York	404.00	405.10	-1.80

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (April.)

Source: Reuters.

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	5601.23	5600.15	+0.02
NYSE	S&P 500	660.51	661.45	-0.14
NYSE	S&P 100	633.48	634.64	-0.18
NYSE	Composite	351.28	351.70	-0.12
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1088.50	1095.26	-0.62
AMEX	Market Value	560.62	562.46	-0.33
Toronto	TSE Index	5045.31	5049.87	-0.09
São Paulo	Bovespa	53855.60	53389.60	+0.87
Mexico City	Bolsa	2920.72	2950.57	-1.01
Buenos Aires	Merval	554.26	554.27	Unch.
Santiago	IPSA General	5609.49	5615.68	-0.29
Caracas	Capital General	2906.39	3000.95	-3.15

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

•**Felix Rohatyn**, managing director of **Lazard Freres & Co.**, asked President Bill Clinton to take his name off the list for nomination to be vice chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

•**WHX Corp.**, a steelmaker, made an increased offer of $30 per share, or $1.67 billion, for **Teledyne Inc.** the diversified manufacturer. Teledyne refused two previous bids from WHX.

•**Jacor Communications Inc.**, which is controlled by the investor **Sam Zell**, agreed to buy **Citicasters Inc.**, for $770 million in stock and debt.

•**U.S. labor** costs rose 2.9 percent in 1995, the smallest annual increase on record, as corporations cut jobs and expenses.

•**Atari Corp.**, the video-game company, is to acquire **JTS Corp.**, a maker of disk drives, for $75 million.

Names, names, names . . .

•**Richard Jenrette**, the chairman and chief executive of Axa Group SA's U.S. unit Equitable Cos., will retire. **Claude Bébéar**, Axa's chief executive, will take the title of chairman, while **Joseph Malone**, chairman of Equitable's life-insurance unit, will become chief executive.

•**Herb Scannell** was named president of Viacom Inc.'s Nickelodeon division. Mr. Scannell had been executive vice president of Nickelodeon Network and U.S. Television.

•**H. Kerner Smith** was named chief executive of the New York engineering concern Stone & Webster Inc. Mr. Smith had been managing director of Deutsche Babcock AG of Germany.

Bloomberg, AP

Mexico Affirms Pemex Sale

By Anthony DePalma
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — Despite growing opposition to the move, government officials have reiterated their commitment to selling pieces of the huge state-owned oil monopoly, Petróleos Mexicanos, while hinting broadly that they might limit foreign investment to ensure that domestic companies get a chance to participate in the privatized businesses.

At a ceremony Monday morning at a sprawling oil refinery at Tula, in central Mexico, President Ernesto Zedillo also sharply criticized opposition politicians and their followers, who have blocked dozens of oil wells in Tabasco State, costing Pemex more than $8.5 million in revenue in the last two weeks.

"Nobody has the right to use the nation's energy resources, their exploitation or their utilization for personal reasons, nor as instruments of pressure or for political battles," Mr. Zedillo said as he unveiled a five-year energy-development plan. "The energy resources belong to the nation and ought to be utilized in accordance with the law for the progress of Mexico and the well-being of all Mexicans."

The development blueprint had no real surprises. But it could send a mixed message to foreign investors, who have expressed interest in bidding on the two parts of Pemex that are being sold: its secondary petrochemicals and the natural-gas distribution operations.

Changes in Mexican law last year made it possible for those operations to be sold. The rest of Pemex remains "strategically important," and thus reserved for the state.

Investors interested in the 60 petrochemical plants to be offered over the next few years are likely to be heartened by the strong support Mr. Zedillo gave Monday to proceeding with the proposed sales. That support came in spite of huge demonstrations by the oil workers' union and others who do not think that any part of Pemex — which has taken on mythic proportions here since the oil industry was nationalized in 1938 — should be sold.

The new energy minister, Jesús Reyes Heroles, said Monday that private investment was essential to rebuilding the energy industries and said that three bids had already been received for the petrochemical complex at Cosoleacaque, the first on the list to be sold, though he did not say who the bidders were.

But the newspaper El Financiero reported the government's concern that foreign investment would have to be limited if it threatened to concentrate ownership in the hands of a few non-Mexican companies.

A former Pemex official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the company had discretion to determine which plants could be sold only to Mexicans. "The government would like to give as much advantage as it can to Mexicans," the former official said, "but they can't let Mexicans buy the plants for peanuts, so they need some competition."

A spokesman for the Energy Ministry would not discuss the newspaper report, but in his speech Monday, Mr. Reyes Heroles said Pemex should be used as an engine for Mexican economic development.

Mr. Reyes Heroles also said that by 2000, Mexico's energy industries would need nearly $34 billion in capital, of which $6 billion will have to come from private business and investors.

Mr. Zedillo said that a substantial part of the money from the privatizations would be used to fortify Pemex. Last year, though, Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz told officials of the U.S. Treasury and the International Monetary Fund that the proceeds of the Pemex sales, as well as the sale of railroads, airports and deep-sea ports, would be used to balance Mexico's budget and reduce its debt.

The blockades of the oil wells in Tabasco State by supporters of the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party continued this week. On Sunday, however, the party agreed to allow Pemex crews to enter the grounds of some blockaded wells to do maintenance work.

Mark Gains as Rate-Cut Hopes Slip

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The Deutsche mark rose and the dollar fell Tuesday as doubts grew that the German central bank would cut interest rates this week.

A Bundesbank council member, Ernst Welteke, doused lingering rate-cut hopes in remarks to appear Wednesday in the Handelsblatt, a German business newspaper. He said the German central bank would "certainly" leave rates unchanged at its policy meeting Thursday, adding that further cuts to the German discount rate were unlikely before late March.

Mr. Welteke said the central bank wanted more time to monitor its key indicator for inflation.

Reduced German rates can hurt the mark by diminishing the appeal of mark-denominated deposits.

The dollar finished in New York at 1.4733 DM, down from 1.4762 DM on Friday, and at 106.785 yen, down from 106.850 yen.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

It also fell against the Swiss franc, to 1.2033 francs from 1.2055 francs, and the French franc, to 5.0715 francs from 5.0750 francs.

The pound rose to $1.5373 from $1.5290.

While the dollar has been underpinned in recent days by the strong performance of U.S. stocks and bonds, traders said that without a clear indication of where European interest rates were headed, or other fresh incentives, they were not yet inclined to drive the dollar higher.

"It would take some extraordinary news to move the out of this range," said Kevin Weir, currency salesman at ABN-AMRO Bank in Chicago.

John Rothfield, an international economist at NationsBanc-CRT, said that the dollar was down because the mark rose and not because traders dumped dollars. "People are saying that this stall in the dollar rally isn't a change in sentiment," he said.

The Swedish central bank announced Tuesday its third recent cut in a key money market repurchase rate, lowering the krona against the dollar. *(Bloomberg, Reuters, AP)*

Gloomy Chip Report Weighs Down Stocks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks ended mostly lower Tuesday, but the Dow Jones industrial average notched a slight gain — the blue-chip barometer's seventh record finish in a row — after rebounding from a plunge prompted by a discouraging report on semiconductor orders.

The Dow industrials, which cracked the 5,600-mark for the first time on Monday, gained 1.08 points, rising to 5,601.23. Declining issues outnumbered advancers by a 9-to-8 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The technology-laden Nasdaq composite index fell 6.88 points, to 1,088.50. Other broad-market indexes were mixed.

After the close of trading Monday, the Semiconductor Industry Association said its book-to-bill ratio declined to 0.93 in January from a revised 1.12 in December. That means chipmakers received only $93 in new orders for every $100 worth of products shipped last month. It was the first time in five years that chip orders fell below shipments.

Many analysts said the weak book-to-bill ratio signals that makers of personal computers and chips ordered too many semiconductors late last year and then had excess inventory of parts at the end of the fourth quarter.

"In the fourth quarter, there were some overly optimistic expectations of demand for memory," said Ron Bohn, an analyst at the research concern Dataquest Inc. "We are seeing some of the ripple effects of over-ordering showing up as cancellations now."

Intel, the world's biggest chipmaker, fell 1 7/64 to 57⅛ as the most active issue on the Nasdaq. Applied Materials, another Nasdaq stock, was down 1⅜ to 38⅜.

Among chipmakers on the Big Board, Texas Instruments fell 1¼ to 50¾, Motorola slipped ½ to 55⅞ and National Semiconductor dropped ¾ to 16.

Micron Technology, the most active Big Board stock, rose ⅜ to 37⅜.

Morgan Stanley downgraded its rating of stock in Compaq Computer and Dell Computer to "neutral" from "outperform." Compaq dropped 1½ to 49¾ on the Big Board, and Dell fell 2 11/16 to 31¼ on the Nasdaq. IBM fell 1⅛ to 113⅞.

Cyclical issues, whose results are heavily affected by the health of the economy, gave the Dow industrials support, as did consumer stocks. United Technologies rose 2⅞ to 105¾, Eastman Kodak gained 1⅜ to 76½, Coca-Cola added 1¼ to 80¾, Procter & Gamble rose 1 to 87⅜ and Sears gained 1¼ to 46.

U.S. STOCKS

Apple Computer shares fell ¼ to 28⅛ on the Nasdaq. The financially ailing computer maker disclosed in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission that, for the first time, it was suspending payment of its quarterly dividend and did not expect a dividend to be paid "in the near future."

Energy companies gained for a second day as freezing weather in Europe and the United States helped crude prices rise. Exxon rose ¼ to 83½ and Mobil rose ⅝ to 116¼.

Stock in W.R. Grace fell 1¾ to 67¾ after the specialty chemical, medical products and health-care company said its kidney-dialysis unit, National Medical Care, was the target of a criminal investigation into possible false statements about its factory in Ireland.

Netscape Communications stock rose 1¼ to 62¾ after the software company teamed with PointCast to offer a news service that appears as a personal computer's screen saver.

The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond was down 1/32, at 99 18/32. That left the yield unchanged at 6.03 percent.

A flood of cash pouring into mutual funds that invest in stocks has Wall Street advance this year.

According to the Investment Company Institute, a mutual-fund trade group, investors put a record $24.5 billion more into stock funds in January than they removed.

"Investors have concluded that they need to be in financial assets. Stocks are returning more than bonds, so money is being applied to stocks almost willy-nilly," said Joe Battipaglia, a market strategist at Gruntal & Co. *(AP, Bloomberg)*

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, Feb. 13
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	73.50	72.40	73.20	72.20
Aegon	70.70	68.20	70.40	68
Ahold	68.60	67.70	68.20	68.20
Akzo Nobel	185.90	184.10	185.80	183.60
Bols Wess cva	35.30	34.90	35.20	34.80
CSM cva	75	74.50	75.30	74
Dordtsche Pet	251.40	248.50	251.10	248
DSM	145	143	144.60	143.20
Elsevier	23.90	23	23.80	23
Fortis Amev	107.60	104.50	107.30	103.70
G-Brocades cva	50.40	47.80	48.40	50.80
Hagemeyer	95.50	94.20	94.20	95
Heineken	298	295.50	297.50	295.40
Hoogovens	63.80	63.10	63.40	63.20
Hunt Douglas	90	88.80	89.70	89.30
ING cva	108.30	106.50	108	106.30
KLM	52.50	51.80	52.40	51.80
KNP BT	45.70	44.80	45.60	45
KPN	65.30	64	65	63.90
Nedlloyd Gp	34.50	34	34	34.30
Nutricia	145.80	145.10	145.30	145.90
Oce Grinten	113	112	112.90	112.40
Pakhoed	41	40.90	41	40.80
Philips Elec	65.90	64.20	64.90	66.50
Polygram	95.80	93	95.70	94.50
Randstad Hdg	75.80	74.80	75.50	76.30
Robeco	122.80	122.10	122.80	122.50
Rodamco	47	46.40	46.80	46.70
Rolinco	130.10	129.90	129.90	129.50
Rorento	96	95.90	95.90	95.80
Royal Dutch	241.80	238.60	241.10	236.30
Stork	43.40	42.80	42.90	42.80
Unilever cva	238.20	236.50	237.80	235.90
VNU	25.80	25.30	25.50	25.40
Wolters Kl cva	170.50	167	170	167.20

EOE index: 509.99
Previous: 503.55

Bangkok

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	502	486	486	502
Bangkok Bk F	348	342	342	348
Krung Thai Bk	127	125	128	125
PTT Explor	288	280	286	286
Siam Cement F	1420	1408	1414	1414
Telecomasia	78.50	76.50	78	78.50
Thai Airways	47	46.25	46.75	46
Thai Farm Bk F	278	272	274	276
Thai Teleph	132	127	130	133
Utd Comm	342	338	342	344

SET index: 1369.74
Previous: 1360.71

Bombay

*Monday, Feb. 12

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Assoc Cement	3710	3530	3555	3610
Grasim Ind	600	560	580	565
Hindalco Ind	1140	1070	1120	1050
Hindust Lever	705	690	695	685
Indian Hotels	800	720	765	715
ITC	288	270	274	274
Larsen Toubro	279	267	269	269
Reliance Ind	237	211	222.25	224.75
Tata Eng Loco	448	432	438	427
Tata Iron St	219	203	208.25	209.50

Sensitive index: 3471.68
Previous: 3470.53

Brussels

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Arbed	3575	3575	3575	3575
Barco Ind	3830	3790	3810	3800
BBL	5680	5610	5630	5630
Bekaert	28300	28050	28125	28100
CBR	12150	12075	12125	12100
CMB	2420	2400	2410	2390
Cockerill	177	176	176	176
Colruyt	9300	9220	9260	9230
Delhaize Lion	1276	1254	1260	1270
Electrabel	7280	7230	7260	7280
Electrafina	2990	2975	2980	2930
Fortis AG	3690	3660	3680	3635
GIB	1372	1360	1368	1360
GBL	4130	4060	4090	4120
Gen Banque	11200	11025	11125	11100
Glaverbel	3225	3180	3200	3195
Kredietbank	8480	8400	8400	8430
Mosane	2185	2180	2180	2155
Petrofina	8570	8510	8520	8570
Powerfin	4210	4100	4150	4085
Recticel	338	320	326	330
Royale Belge	6400	6320	6350	6320
Soc Gen Belg	2520	2470	2470	2485
Solvay	17800	17575	17575	17550
Tessenderlo	12600	12400	12450	12400
Tractebel	12750	12400	12600	12650
UCB	45950	44600	45000	45900
Union Miniere	2275	2250	2250	2260

Stock Exchange index: 8807.88
Previous: 8820.43

Copenhagen

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Carlsberg B	325	322	325	324
Danisco	281	276	276	278
Den Danske Bk	397	390.50	396	391
D/S Svendbrg A	182500	182000	182500	179000
D/S 1912 A	127500	126500	127000	125000
East Asiatic Co	121	115	116	120
FLS Ind B	500	500	500	493
ISS Intl Svc B	150	145	145.20	147
Novo Nordisk B	769	763	767	760
Radiometer B	431	424	425	425
Sophus Ber B	680	670	675	670
Tele Danmk B	338	331	332	333
Unidanmark A	279	274	276	274

Stock Market index: 391.35
Previous: 389.21

Frankfurt

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB	915	915	915	915
AEG	164.30	164	164	163.50
Allianz Hdg	2767	2750	2755	2758
Altana	946	938	945.50	935
Asko Deutsche	770	760	765	775
Bodenwerk	492	492	492	495
BASF	354	352	352.70	352.20
Bayer Hypo Bk	39.05	38.90	38.99	38.51
Bay.Vereinsbank	44.10	43.65	44.05	43.45
Bayer	442.30	439.70	440	442.10
Berliner Kraft	428	424	424	424.90
BHF Bank	42.60	42.50	42.55	42.10
BMW	821	815	821	811
CKAG Colonia	1140	1135	1140	1140
Commerzbank	346	344	344.50	344.30
Daimler Benz	817.50	814	815	814.50
Degussa	543	536	539.50	534
Deutsche Bank	75.05	74.82	74.93	74.45
Dresdner Bank	38.95	38.80	38.85	38.83
Heidelbg Zmt	962	961	962	960
Henkel	573	566	566	568
Hochtief	699	678	695	676
Hoechst	443	439.50	440	441.50
Holzmann Ph.	612	600	609	599
Karstadt	554	551	551.70	552
Kaufhof Hdg	456	453	454.50	455
Linde	871	866	868	864
Lufthansa ord	231.50	230	230.50	229.50
MAN	441	438	438.30	440
Mannesmann	510	506.50	508.50	509.50
Muench Rueck	3208	3200	3203	3200
Preussag	431.50	430	431.50	428
PWA	212.50	210	210	209.20
RWE	58.35	57.84	58.35	57.40
SAP pfd	230.50	227	229	230.50
Schering	105.80	105.35	105.80	105
Schmalb Lub	243	241	241	240
Siemens	852.80	846	846.20	847.90
Suedzucker	799	790	790	790
Thyssen	276	274.80	275.30	275.20
Veba	64.43	64.20	64.30	63.99
VEW	490	490	492	492
Viag	622.40	617.50	622.40	617.50
Volkswagen	550	545	546	541
Wella	759	751	751	756

DAX index: 2433.91
Previous: 2428.85

Helsinki

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cultor I	192.50	192	192.50	194
Enso-gutzeit r	31	30.50	30.50	30.30
Huhtamaki IF	150	145	145	142
Kesko	58.50	58	58.50	58
Kone BF	398	389	398	390
Kymmene F	119	117.50	117.50	116
Merita A	11.90	11.60	11.80	11.80
Metra BF	193	186	189.80	187
Metso-Serla B	133	132	132	132
Nokia Prf F	175	169	170.50	174
Outokumpu A	73	73	73.50	73
Rautaruukki	30	28.50	29.80	30.40
Repola	84.80	83.60	84	80.20
Stockmann A	240	240	240	240
Valmet A	127	125	126	126

HEX General index: 1820.06
Previous: 1823.65

Hong Kong

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	9.50	9.25	9.30	9.35
Bk East Asia	32.40	31.90	31.90	32
Cathay Pacific	14	13.75	13.95	13.85
Cheung Kong	54.75	53.50	53.75	53.75
China Light	37.60	37	37.10	37.80
Chin Estates	7	6.85	6.90	6.95
Citic Pacific	31.10	30	30.10	30.50
Cons Elec Pwr	14.55	14.25	14.25	14.65
Dao Heng Bk	33.60	33	33.30	32.90
First Pacific	10.35	10.05	10.10	10.25
Great Eagle	22.10	21.70	21.90	21.90
Guangdong Inv	5.40	5.20	5.20	5.40
Guoco Group	43.20	42	42	43.20
Hang Lung	15.10	14.80	14.80	14.90
Hang Seng Bk	74.50	73.75	74	74.25
Henderson Inv	7.15	7.10	7.10	7
Henderson Ld	58.25	57.25	57.25	57.50
HKR Intl	8.85	8.75	8.85	8.65
HK Aircraft	23.70	22.40	23	23.50
HK China Gas	14.75	14.45	14.60	14.30
HK Electric	27.30	26.90	27.05	27
HK Shang Hlts	12.30	12	12.15	12
HK Telecomm	15.90	15.70	15.75	15.75
Hopewell Hdgs	5.30	5.20	5.25	5.25
HSBC Hdgs	126.50	125	125.50	125.50
Hutchison Wh	51	49.10	49.20	50.75
Hysan Dev	23.50	23.05	23.05	23.20
Johnson El 500	15.90	15.40	15.45	15.80
Miramar Hotel	17.30	17.10	17.25	17
Natl Mutual	7.80	7.45	7.70	7.70
New World	36.20	35.30	35.30	35.50
Oriental Press	3.40	3.35	3.38	3.35
Orient Telecom	2.75	2.68	2.70	2.68
Shangri-La	11.45	11	11.30	11.30
SHK Props	71.25	69.75	69.75	70.25
Shun Tak Hdgs	5.90	5.75	5.90	5.75
Sino Land Co.	8.30	8.20	8.20	8.25
Sth China Post	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	5.55
Swire Pac A	68	66.75	66.75	67.75
Tsim Sha Tsui	8.50	8.25	8.30	8.40
TV Broadcasts	28.50	28	28	28.50
Wharf Hdgs	31.40	30.70	30.80	30.90
Wheelock	16.60	16.30	16.45	16.20

Hang Seng index: 11280.20
Previous: 11256.60

Jakarta

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	3450	3400	3425	3425
Barito Pacific	1975	1900	1900	1950
Gudang Garm	26900	26500	26600	26300
Indah Kiat	1725	1700	1700	1725
Indocement	9200	9100	9100	9275
Indofood	11900	11750	11900	11675
Indorayon	2525	2500	2500	2500
Indosat	8750	8750	8750	8775
Kalbe Farma	8525	8500	8525	8525
Sampoerna	26500	25500	26475	25100

Composite index: 584.83
Previous: 577.48

Johannesburg

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AngloAm-Corp	265	259	260	269
AngloAm Gold	386	380	380	393
AngloAm Ind	170	170	170	170
Barlow	56.25	56	56	56.25
C.G. Smith	29	28.75	28.75	29.25
De Beers	118.50	117.50	118	119.25
Driefontein	57.25	55.25	55.50	56.75
Freegold	38.15	38	38	38.75
Fst Natl Bk	35.50	35.15	35.15	35.50
Gencor	14.10	14	14.10	14.25
GFSA	130	130	130	135
Iscor	3.16	3.13	3.16	3.15
Johnnies Ind	53	53	53	54.50
Kloof Gold	51.75	50.50	51.25	51.25
Liberty Life	124	124	124	122
Nedcor	65.75	65.50	65.75	65.50
Rembrandt Gp	37.25	37	37.25	37.75
Richemont	58.50	57.50	58.50	57.50
Rust Platinum	78	78	78	78
SA Breweries	137.25	136	137	135.50
Sappi	44	43	44	42.50
Sasol	31	30	30.25	31
SBIC	180	180	180	176
Tiger Oats	71	71	71	72

All Market index: 6763.53
Previous: 6880.12

Kuala Lumpur

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Genting	23.40	22.90	23	23.20
Hicom Hldgs	5.50	5.40	5.50	5.40
Mal Banking	22.60	22.30	22.60	22.30
Mal Intl Ship F	7.55	7.35	7.40	7.60
Public Bank F	6.30	6.20	6.25	6.20
Resorts World	14.60	14.30	14.40	14.40
Sime Darby	6.90	6.70	6.75	6.90
Telekom Mal	22	21.40	21.80	21.60
Tenaga	10.20	10	10.10	10.20
Utd Engineers	16.30	16.10	16.20	16.10

Composite index: 1064.23
Previous: 1059.55

London

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	5.87	5.78	5.84	5.79
Allied Domecq	5.39	5.20	5.24	5.20
Anglian Water	5.85	5.78	5.82	5.81
Argyll Group	3.23	3.13	3.16	3.18
Arjo Wiggins	1.90	1.81	1.87	1.80
Asda Group	1.06	1.04	1.04	1.06
Assoc Br Foods	3.85	3.81	3.84	3.82
BAA	4.99	4.86	4.91	4.88
Barclays	7.89	7.82	7.86	7.84
Bass	7.54	7.43	7.51	7.43
BAT Ind	5.75	5	5.70	5.68
Bank Scotland	2.89	2.86	2.88	2.89
BICC	2.85	2.74	2.82	2.73
Blue Circle	3.63	3.54	3.57	3.59
BOC Group	9.43	9.18	9.24	9.45
Boots	6.05	5.99	6.02	5.98
Rexam	3.75	3.58	3.74	3.60
BPB Ind	3.18	3.14	3.16	3.18
Brit Aerosp	8.38	8.26	8.33	8.35
Brit Airways	5.08	4.99	5.02	5.06
Brit Gas	2.43	2.40	2.42	2.40
Brit Petm	5.52	4.90	5.37	5.45
Brit Steel	1.73	1.70	1.72	1.69
Brit Telecom	3.73	3.63	3.71	3.65
BTR	3.28	3.24	3.26	3.24
Burmah Cast	10.70	10.26	10.66	10.34
Cable Wireless	4.58	4.52	4.55	4.56
Cadbury Schw	5.33	5.26	5.32	5.25
Caradon	2.19	2.13	2.17	2.15
Carlton Comm	10.50	10.34	10.48	10.39
Coats Viyella	1.85	1.80	1.84	1.80
Comml Union	6.20	6.15	6.18	6.16
Courtaulds	4.20	4.11	4.13	4.18
De La Rue	7.30	7.22	7.25	7.22
Eng China Cl	3.56	3.35	3.38	3.36
Enterprise Oil	3.70	3.63	3.68	3.65
Fors Colonial	1.68	1.66	1.67	1.67
Forte	3.50	3.45	3.47	3.49
Genl Accident	6.36	6.28	6.30	6.33
GEC	3.69	3.61	3.66	3.61
GKN	8.31	8.23	8.27	8.25
Glaxo	9.63	9.27	9.36	9.28
Granada Gp	7.27	7.11	7.18	7.13
Grand Met	4.53	4.44	4.46	4.43
GRE	2.52	2.48	2.48	2.50
Guinness	4.57	4.51	4.54	4.53
GUS	7	6.90	6.96	6.90
Hanson	1.87	1.83	1.84	1.86
Hillsdown Hdg	1.82	1.77	1.80	1.77
HSBC Hldgs	10.66	10.51	10.58	10.61
ICI	8.32	8.18	8.24	8.23
Inchcape	2.68	2.62	2.64	2.62
Kingfisher	5.25	5.18	5.22	5.20
Ladbroke	1.71	1.68	1.69	1.68
Land Sec	6.20	6.13	6.16	6.13
Laporte	6.37	6.28	6.28	6.28
Lasmo	1.66	1.62	1.64	1.64
Legal Genl Grp	6.98	6.88	6.97	6.91
Lloyds Abbey	4.90	4.82	4.86	4.84
Lloyds TSB Gp	3.28	3.21	3.25	3.22
London Elec	7.50	7.40	7.47	7.46
Lucas Ind	1.92	1.88	1.91	1.91
Marks Spencer	4.33	4.29	4.31	4.29
MEPC	4.10	4.05	4.10	4.07
Mercury Asset	8.80	8.75	8.75	8.80
Midlands Elec	3.93	3.88	3.93	3.92
Natl Power	4.80	4.65	4.76	4.66
NatWest	6.63	6.51	6.58	6.52
News Intl	3.05	2.98	3.04	3.02
Utd Utilities	6	5.87	5.98	5.85
Nthern Foods	1.92	1.87	1.92	1.87
P&O	5.38	5.24	5.31	5.23
Pearson	6.85	6.75	6.82	6.83
Pilkington	2.06	2.03	2.04	2.07
Powergen	5.34	5.24	5.30	5.23
Prudential	4.43	4.39	4.41	4.40
Rank Org	4.77	4.71	4.74	4.72
Reckitt Colm	6.97	6.90	6.94	6.95
Redland	4.22	4.13	4.19	4.13
Reed Intl	10.32	10.13	10.23	10.10
Rentokil	3.69	3.65	3.67	3.65
Reuters Hdgs	6.77	6.41	6.76	6.43
RMC Group	10.22	10.10	10.16	10.19
Rolls Royce	2.15	2.10	2.12	2.12
Royal Bk Scot	5.58	5.45	5.52	5.47
RTZ reg	9.47	9.29	9.40	9.27
Royal Insur	3.77	3.70	3.73	3.70
Sainsbury	3.87	3.80	3.82	3.83
Schroders	12.65	12.55	12.60	12.50
Scot Newcastle	6.55	6.50	6.52	6.50
Scot Power	3.87	3.82	3.82	3.81
Sears	0.96	0.94	0.94	0.95
Severn Trent	6.34	6.25	6.29	6.26
Shell Trsp reg	8.85	8.67	8.77	8.68
Siebe	8.02	7.95	7.99	8
Smith Nephew	1.91	1.90	1.90	1.91
Smith (WH)	4.31	4.18	4.25	4.17
SmithKline dA	7.31	7.23	7.26	7.24
Smiths Ind	6.60	6.53	6.58	6.57
Sthern Elec	8.37	8.31	8.35	8.33
Stand Charter	5.98	5.86	5.91	5.89
Sun Alliance	3.71	3.51	3.61	3.67
Tate & Lyle	4.70	4.65	4.69	4.66
Tesco	2.85	2.76	2.79	2.82
Thames Water	5.47	5.40	5.43	5.40
Thorn EMI	16.90	16.76	16.81	16.85
3i Group	4.19	4.13	4.18	4.14
TI Group	4.72	4.65	4.72	4.67
Tomkins	2.79	2.75	2.77	2.74
Unilever	13	12.88	12.93	12.92
Utd Biscuits	2.42	2.35	2.38	2.39
Utd News	6.36	6.25	6.31	6.32
Vendome uts	5.75	5.73	5.75	5.72
Vodafone	2.36	2.32	2.34	2.33
Whitbread	7.25	7.16	7.19	7.21
Williams Hdgs	3.35	3.30	3.32	3.31
Wolseley	4.90	4.70	4.83	4.69
Zeneca	12.55	12.40	12.47	12.40

FT-SE 100 index: 3747.60
Previous: 3726.60

Madrid

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	12870	12770	12830	12700
ACESA	1300	1280	1300	1275
Argentaria	5440	5400	5440	5400
BBV	4740	4700	4740	4725
Banesto	870	856	870	862
Bankinter	13150	12990	13100	13000
Bco Centro Hisp	2730	2685	2730	2680
Bco Exterior	3205	3200	3200	3205
Bco Popular	21350	21190	21240	21200
Bco Santander	5890	5830	5890	5800
CEPSA	3695	3655	3660	3690
Corp Mapfre	6700	6650	6680	6680
Dragados	1680	1665	1680	1655
Endesa	6690	6620	6670	6630
FECSA	823	815	818	814
Fomento Const	10400	10050	10170	10110
Gas Natural	18380	18210	18340	18250
Hidroel Cantab	4185	4150	4185	4150
Iberdrola	1185	1155	1180	1140
Pryca	2345	2330	2345	2350
Repsol	4460	4435	4460	4420
Sevillana Elec	915	903	915	900
Tabacalera	4870	4820	4850	4840
Telefonica	1840	1810	1840	1810
Union Fenosa	684	676	683	669
Valenc Cement	1350	1340	1350	1350

Stock Exchange index: 330.92
Previous: 327.91

Manila

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala A	23.50	22.25	23.50	23.25
Ayala Land	36	34.50	36	34.50
Manila Elec A	165	164	164	164
Metro Bank	590	585	585	585
Petron	13.75	13.25	13.75	13.25
Phil Long Dist	1615	1605	1610	1605
San Miguel A	57.50	57	57	57
San Miguel B	96	93	96	92
SM Prime Hdg	8.20	8.10	8.20	8.10

PSE index: 2905.66
Previous: 2854.02

Mexico

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	92.50	90.70	91.70	92.70
Cemex B	28.50	28.00	28.15	28.50
Cifra C	9.20	9.04	9.08	9.32
Empresas ICA	96.00	94.00	94.70	99.00
Emp Moderna	33.60	32.85	33.60	33.50
Femsa	19.30	18.92	19.10	19.30
Gpo Carso A1	51.50	50.60	50.80	51.90
Televisa CPO	99.00	94.90	97.30	99.00
TelMex L	12.06	11.90	12.00	12.04
Tribasa CPO	28.55	28.00	28.15	28.70

Bolsa index: 2920.72
Previous: 2950.57

Milan

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	15270	15080	15160	15110
Bca Comm Ital	3710	3625	3700	3580
Bca Naz Agricol	1140	1135	1140	1115
Bca Naz Lavoro	12900	12310	12900	12500
Bca di Roma	1779	1720	1779	1705
Bco Ambrosiano	4895	4800	4895	4850
Benetton	19100	18920	19050	18725
Credito Italiano	1990	1940	1985	1934
Fiat	5355	5210	5350	5160
Fondiaria	8155	8005	8100	8095
Generali Assic	39750	39250	39700	39250
IFIL	5490	5255	5490	5200
Italcementi	11150	10850	11035	10800
Italgas	5165	5060	5135	5010
Mediobanca	11525	11250	11400	11110
Montedison	1015	996	1005	1005
Olivetti	946	916	936	916
Pirelli	2285	2230	2285	2215
RAS	17810	17465	17750	17460
Rinascente	10755	10650	10750	10650
S Paolo Torino	10240	10005	10040	10055
SME	1652	1635	1650	1624
Standa	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	19550
Stet	5020	4940	5000	4900
Telecom Italia	2685	2625	2675	2615
Toro Assic	23100	22650	23000	22750

MIB Telematico index: 10078.00
Previous: 9885.00

Montreal

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alco I	19¼	19	19	19
Bank Montreal	32¼	31⅞	32¼	32¼
Bce Mob Com	46¼	45⅝	46	46
Cdn Tire A	14⅝	14½	14⅝	14½
Cdn Util A	26½	26⅜	26⅜	26⅜
Cascades	6⅝	6½	6⅝	6⅝
CT Finl Svc	24⅝	24½	24⅝	24⅝
Extendicare	34	34	34	33
Gaz Metro	15⅛	15	15⅛	15
Gt-West Lifeco	29⅜	29⅛	29⅜	29
Hees Intl Bcp	14⅝	14½	14⅝	14½
Hudsons Bay	18⅝	17⅝	18⅝	17⅝
Imasco	26½	26¼	26½	26
Investors Grp	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	17⅞
Loblaw Cos	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	33⅝
Molson A	24⅛	24	24	24⅛
Natl Bk Canada	11⅜	11¼	11⅜	11¼
Oshawa A	23⅞	23⅝	23⅞	23½
Pancdn Petlm.	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	52
Power Corp	20⅛	19⅝	20	20⅛
Power Finl	34⅝	34½	34⅝	34½
Quebecor B	23⅝	23⅜	23⅝	23⅝
Rogers Comm B	14⅝	14⅝	14⅝	14⅝
Royal Bk Cda	33⅛	32⅞	33	32⅞
Sears Canada	6⅛	6	6	6⅛
Shell Cda A	44	43⅝	43⅞	44⅛
Southam	14⅝	14½	14⅝	14½
Stelco A	6⅝	6½	6½	6⅝
Trilon Finl A	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.65

Industrials index: 2589.17
Previous: 2605.78

Oslo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	86.50	83.50	86	84.50
Bergesen Dy B	126.50	125	125	126.50
Christiania Bk	16.10	15.90	16	16
Den Norske Bk	19.40	19	19.40	19
Dl Norsk Luft	294	293	294	291
Dyno Indust	138	134	138	133
Elkem	76	73.50	75.50	75
Hafslund A	183	181.50	182.50	182
Kvaerner	216.50	195	204.50	213.50
Leif Hoegh	94.50	93.50	93.50	94
Norsk Hydro	277	269.50	276	271.50
Norske Skog A	184	180.50	183	181.50
Orkla	305	303.50	305	303.50
Rieber B	123	123	123	125
Saga Petlm B	72	71	71.50	71
Schibsted	90	89	90	89
UniStorebr A	35.20	34.70	34.80	35.10

OBX index: 421.78
Previous: 419.85

Paris

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	696	672	687	665
AGF	155.70	150.10	150.50	151.10
Air Liquide	906	893	899	904
Alcatel Alsth	455.70	444.30	455	446.20
Axa	322.30	318.40	321.40	319.40
Bancaire	503	491.70	501	491
BNP	196.50	192.90	195.20	194.80
Bouygues	525	512	525	523
Canal Plus	955	925	947	937
Carrefour	3200	3170	3195	3190
CCF	243.90	240.10	240.40	242.50
CamaudMB	222	218.20	221.50	223.50
Credit Local cl	417.40	412.10	415	415.80
Credit Lyon PC	234.80	225	234.80	229.50
Danone	789	773	775	788
Elf-Aquitaine	372	367.30	372	370
Eridania BS	890	875	884	876
Euro Disney	13.40	13.20	13.35	13.10
Eurotunnel uts	6.65	6.40	6.50	6.60
Gen. Eaux	537	527	535	527
Havas	380	374.10	375.70	374.10
Lafarge Cop	328.90	324	324.80	324.60
Legrand	900	886	899	897
L'oreal	1429	1406	1428	1406
LVMH	1140	1116	1135	1116
Lyon. Eaux	459	451.20	458	453.60
Michelin B	219.90	217	217.20	219.30
Navig Mixte	705	700	701	700
Paribas A	259	254.60	256.50	256
Pechiney Intl	95	94.10	95	94.10
Pernod Ricard	317.30	312	316.20	312.90
Peugeot Cit	728	711	716	719
Pinault-Print	1179	1163	1176	1165
Promodes	1369	1348	1362	1365
Renault	145.20	142.10	143	142.40
Rh-Poulenc A	127.80	125.50	127.70	125.40
Roussel-Uclaf	948	926	947	930
Sanofi	340.70	337.60	340.50	336.30
Schneider	213.90	212.50	213.30	211.50
Ste Generale	601	587	596	585
St Gobain	640	634	638	633
St Louis	1434	1408	1434	1408
Suez	190.10	185.10	186.20	187.30
Thomson CSF	140.90	134.60	138.90	135
Total B	353	345.60	352	342.50
UAP	117.50	114.50	114.50	115.50
Valeo	264.90	262.80	263.80	264

CAC-40 index: 1983.23
Previous: 1967.67

São Paulo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bco Brasil Pfd	15.30	14.40	15.09	14.30
Banespa Pfd	5.50	5.45	5.460	5.45
Bradesco Pfd	11.70	11.250	11.650	11.50
Brahma Pfd	542.00	531.00	541.00	535.00
Cemig Pfd	29.00	28.00	28.950	28.00
CESP Pfd	33.50	33.20	33.50	33.20
Eletrobras B	307.00	305.00	305.00	305.00
Itaubanco Pfd	389.00	370.00	389.00	370.00
Light	309.00	307.00	309.00	308.00
Paranapan Pfd	15.00	14.50	15.00	14.20
Petrobras Pfd	114.50	109.50	113.00	112.99
Sid Nacional	29.10	28.50	28.80	28.95
Souza Cruz	7.51	7.40	7.40	7.50
Telebras Pfd	56.75	54.31	56.00	55.50
Telesp Pfd	175.80	172.00	174.00	172.99
Usiminas Pfd	1.16	1.14	1.16	1.14
CVRD Pfd	173.00	171.00	172.00	171.50

Bovespa index: 53855.60
Previous: 53389.60

Seoul

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Daewoo Heavy	8050	7870	7900	7910
Hyundai Eng	37200	36700	37000	37300
Hyundai Motor	33300	32800	32900	33300
Korea El Pwr	28800	28300	28400	28800
Korea Mob Tel	642000	625000	638000	632000
LG Electronics	22500	21800	21900	22400
Pohang Iron St	52600	52400	52400	52400
Samsung Elec	130500	128000	130500	131500
Samsung Hvy	18000	17500	17600	18000
Yukong	24700	24000	24000	24700

Composite index: 858.18
Previous: 865.12

Singapore

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cerebos Pac	11.60	11.50	11.50	11.80
City Devlts	11.70	11.40	11.50	11.50
Cycle Carriage	15.50	15	15.30	15
Dairy Farm Intl*	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.95
DBS	10.70	10.50	10.60	10.70
DBS Land	5.70	5.40	5.70	5.60
Fraser & Neave	20.20	19.80	19.80	19.90
HK Land*	2.28	2.12	2.14	2.14
Hong Leong Fin	4.02	4	4	3.98
Jard Matheson*	8.45	8.35	8.45	8.35
Jard Strategic*	3.42	3.40	3.42	3.40
Keppel	13.80	13.50	13.80	13.70
Natsteel	2.97	2.93	2.95	2.91
Neptune Orient	1.69	1.63	1.63	1.62
OCBC foreign	19.70	19.20	19.50	19.40
O'Sea Union Bk	7.20	7.10	7.15	7.15
Sembawang	7.95	7.80	7.90	7.95
Sing Airlines F	15.10	14.60	14.80	15.10
Sing Petlm	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	1.80
Sing Press F	27.50	26.90	27.40	26.90
ST Auto F	3.20	3.16	3.18	3.18
ST Ship	2.66	2.64	2.64	2.66
Sing Telecomm	3.46	3.34	3.46	3.40
Straits Steam	5.15	4.98	5.10	5.10
Utd Industrial	1.56	1.49	1.55	1.51
Utd O'Sea Bk F	15.50	15.20	15.50	15.20
Wing Tai Hdgs	3.38	3.24	3.38	3.32

*: in U.S. dollars.
Straits Times index: 2422.67
Previous: 2413.59

Stockholm

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA BF	101	98	98.50	99.50
Asea AF	692	680	691	682
AssiDoman F	143	140	142.50	141.50
Astra AF	300	294	298.50	291.50
Atlas Copco AF	113	110.50	112	110.50
Avesta F	64	61.50	62	63
Electrolux BF	316	311	315	312.50
Ericsson BF	146.50	143	144.50	147
Gambro BF	154	153.50	152.50	153.50
Hennes BF	420	413	411	415
Incentive AF	315	312	314	311
Investor BF	245	238	240	244
Kinnevik BF	220	213.50	218	212
MoDo BF	315	307	311	313
Sandvik BF	126.50	125	125.50	125
SCA BF	113.50	112	113	112
S-E Banken AF	52.50	50	50.50	50.50
Skandia Fors F	173	172	172.50	170.50
Skanska BF	210	205	205	207.50
SKF BF	143.50	140.50	143.50	140
SSAB BF	77	74.50	75.50	76.50
Stora AF	79	77.50	78	79
Sv Handles AF	131	128	128.50	129.50
Sydkraft AF	140	140	140	138
Trelleborg BF	79	77	77	78.50
Volvo BF	139	135.50	136	137.50

SX 16 index: 1974.23
Previous: 1971.02

Sydney

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	9.73	9.66	9.68	9.65
ANZ Bking	6.80	6.60	6.76	6.61
BHP	18.96	18.72	18.96	18.66
Boral	3.65	3.58	3.65	3.60
Brambles Ind.	15.41	15.17	15.40	15.10
Burns Philp	2.95	2.85	2.95	2.92
CBA	11.95	11.73	11.92	11.70
CC Amatil	12.63	12.56	12.60	12.54
Coles Myer	4.52	4.47	4.51	4.47
Comalco	6.80	6.70	6.80	6.69
CRA Ltd	19.80	19.50	19.80	19.44
CSR	4.55	4.46	4.53	4.45
Fosters Brew	2.25	2.21	2.25	2.20
GIO Australia	3.22	3.16	3.21	3.20
Goodman Fld	1.40	1.38	1.40	1.40
ICI Australia	10.90	10.56	10.80	10.45
John Fairfax	2.95	2.89	2.94	2.90
Lend Lease	20.92	20.40	20.92	20.35
Mayne Nickless	6.13	6.05	6.11	6.02
MIM Hdgs	1.59	1.54	1.57	1.60
Nat Aust Bank	12.90	12.72	12.89	12.70
News Corp	7.26	7.11	7.25	7.05
North Ltd	3.89	3.82	3.89	3.81
Pacific Dunlop	3.24	3.16	3.19	3.24
Pioneer Intl	3.94	3.90	3.94	3.91
Placer Pacific	2.85	2.75	2.79	2.80
Santos	3.97	3.93	3.95	3.96
Southcorp	3.40	3.36	3.36	3.36
Wesfarmers	8.29	8.15	8.20	7.98
Westrn Mining	8.35	8.15	8.35	8.21
Westfield Trt	2.36	2.34	2.36	2.35
Westpac Bking	6.25	6.20	6.24	6.20
Woodside Pet	7.05	6.91	7.05	6.92
Woolworths	3.40	3.34	3.40	3.34

All Ordinaries index: 2289.70
Previous: 2260.00

Taipei

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Cement	42.30	42	42.20	42.20
Cathay Life Ins	119.50	118	118	118.50
Chang Hwa Bk	97.50	96	96	97
China Steel	20.50	20.20	20.20	20.30
China Trust	41.60	41	41	41.40
Evergreen	44.20	43.80	43.90	43.90
Far East Text	23.50	23.10	23.20	23.20
First Bank	99.50	98.50	98.50	98.50
Formosa CF	23.50	23.10	23.10	23.10
Hua Nan Bk	83	82	82	82
Hualon Teijran	18	17.50	17.60	17.50
ICBC	72	71	71	71.50
President Ent	31.90	31.60	31.80	31.70
Taiwan Cemt	37.60	37.10	37.40	37.10
Tatung	49.70	49.10	49.10	49.50

Stock Market index: 4857.27
Previous: 4844.81

Tokyo

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1230	1190	1200	1230
All Nippon Air	1040	1030	1040	1040
Asahi Bank	1270	1250	1260	1270
Asahi Chem	787	782	786	786
Asahi Glass	1240	1220	1230	1230
Bank of Tokyo	1710	1680	1690	1710
Bk Yokohama	835	830	831	829
Bridgestone	1690	1670	1680	1670
Canon	2090	2040	2040	2060
Chiba Bank	901	898	898	901
Chubu Elec	2490	2470	2480	2480
Chugoku Elec	2460	2450	2450	2450
Daiei	1300	1260	1270	1280
Daiichi Kang	2080	2030	2030	2070
Daiwa Bank	768	762	764	769
Daiwa House	1690	1670	1670	1680
Daiwa Sec	1610	1570	1570	1590
Fanuc	4660	4570	4620	4560
Fuji Bank	2370	2300	2320	2370
Fuji Photo	3120	3050	3050	3130
Fujitsu	1120	1100	1100	1130
Hitachi	1080	1060	1060	1080
Honda Motor	2390	2350	2350	2360
IBJ	2950	2930	2930	2950
IHI	484	477	483	481
Itochu	719	705	708	708
Ito-Yokado	6300	6200	6230	6250
JAL	757	736	740	740
Jusco	2810	2790	2800	2780
Kajima	1160	1130	1140	1160
Kansai Elec	2480	2460	2460	2480
Kao	1320	1300	1310	1300
Kawa Steel	366	358	359	368
KDD	8920	8880	8900	8850
Kinki Nipp Ry	798	790	797	791
Kirin Brewery	1290	1270	1270	1280
Kobe Steel	335	332	333	332
Komatsu	920	901	901	910
Kubota	669	665	666	665
Kyocera	7350	7230	7250	7280
Kyushu Elec	2480	2450	2450	2460
LTCB	780	769	780	773
Marubeni	569	553	555	565
Marui	2120	2080	2080	2060
Matsu Elec Ind	1770	1730	1750	1740
Matsu Elec Wk	1140	1120	1120	1140
Mitsubishi	1350	1330	1330	1320
Mitsubishi Bk	2320	2300	2300	2310
Mitsubishi Ch	540	530	534	535
Mitsubishi El	807	788	788	802
Mitsubishi Est	1330	1300	1320	1330
Mitsubishi Hvy	872	864	867	866
Mitsubishi Mat	882	870	875	880
Mitsubishi Tr	1720	1700	1710	1700
Mitsui	949	944	949	940
Mitsui Fudosn	1280	1250	1260	1270
Mitsui Trust	1170	1130	1130	1150
Murata Mfg	3610	3610	3610	3610
NEC	1310	1270	1280	1300
New Oji Paper	985	965	971	980
Nikko Sec	1310	1270	1280	1310
Nintendo	7490	7210	7270	7500
Nipp Credit Bk	422	416	419	416
Nipp Express	1040	1010	1020	1020
Nippon Oil	666	656	657	660
Nippon Paper	769	760	762	755
Nippon Steel	360	355	357	361
Nippon Yusen	623	615	616	617
Nippondenso	2040	1990	1990	2030
Nissan Motor	860	847	847	851
NKK	300	296	296	302
Nomura Sec	2380	2330	2330	2380
NTT	8280a	8200a	8240a	8200a
Obayashi	878	870	872	876
Odakyu El Ry	739	730	732	732
Ono Pharm	3990	3960	3960	3950
Osaka Gas	381	376	376	379
Ricoh	1210	1180	1200	1210
Sakura Bk	1230	1210	1220	1220
Sankyo	2580	2530	2550	2570
Sanwa Bank	2030	1980	1990	2020
Sanyo Elec	645	631	633	640
Secom	6940	6890	6910	6880
Seibu Rwy	5160	5130	5150	5110
Sekisui House	1370	1340	1340	1360
Seven-Eleven	7540	7450	7460	7460
Sharp	1710	1690	1690	1700
Shimizu	1160	1130	1130	1150
Shin-etsu Ch	2220	2170	2190	2190
Shizuoka Bk	1280	1260	1280	1270
Sony	6490	6450	6460	6450
Sumitomo	1120	1080	1090	1110
Sumitomo Bk	2050	2030	2050	2030
Sumit Chem	552	543	548	554
Sumitomo Elec	1440	1410	1430	1410
Sumit Metal	334	331	333	333
Sumit Trust	1410	1390	1410	1420
Taisei	732	722	722	732
Taisho Pharm	2110	2070	2070	2090
Takeda Chem	1780	1740	1740	1760
TDK	5300	5230	5260	5290
Tohoku El Pwr	2550	2520	2540	2550
Tokai Bank	1420	1400	1410	1390
Tokio Marine	1370	1350	1350	1370
Tokyo El Pwr	2770	2750	2760	2750
Tokyo Gas	388	385	385	388
Tokyu	752	740	740	762
Tonen	1590	1580	1590	1560
Toppan Print	1520	1460	1460	1420
Toray Ind	702	694	699	696
Toshiba	848	831	833	850
Toyo Seikan	3330	3290	3290	3280
Toyo Trust	998	980	980	976
Toyota Motor	2320	2290	2300	2300
Yamaichi Sec	810	793	799	810
Yamanouchi	2410	2390	2400	2380
Yasuda Fire	784	776	779	777
Yasuda Trust	620	610	611	611

a: x 100
Nikkei 225 index: 20784.23
Previous: 20934.92

Toronto

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	23⅝	23	23⅜	23¼
Air Canada	4.90	4.85	4.90	4.90
Alberta Energy	23⅝	23⅜	23⅝	23⅜
Alcan Alum	44⅛	43⅝	43⅞	44⅛
Avenor A	24	23⅝	23¾	23⅝
Bk Nova Scotia	31⅜	31	31¼	31¼
Barrick Gold	42	41⅛	41¾	41⅝
BCE	50⅝	50	50⅛	50⅝
BC Telecomm	26⅛	26⅛	26⅛	26⅛
Bombardier B	21⅜	21¼	21⅜	21⅜
Brascan A	23⅛	22⅞	23	23¼
Cameco	74⅛	71⅝	74¼	71⅝
CIBC	42⅝	42	42⅝	42⅝
Cdn Airlines	2.90	2.77	2.79	2.95
Cdn Nat Res	23⅛	22⅝	23	23
Cdn Occid Pet	43⅝	43⅝	43⅝	43⅝
Cdn Pacific	27⅛	26⅞	26⅞	27
Cominco	29⅛	27⅜	27⅜	29⅛
Consumers Gas	20⅝	20⅜	20⅜	20⅝
Dofasco	20⅝	20⅜	20⅝	20⅜
Donohue A	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛
Du Pont Cda A	26⅜	25	26⅜	26⅛
Echo Bay Mns	19	18⅝	18⅝	18⅝
Empire Co. A	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝
Falconbridge	25⅝	25⅜	25⅜	25⅝
Fletcher Chall A	20⅛	20	20⅛	20
Franco Nevada	85⅝	84⅝	84⅝	85⅝
Guardian Cap A	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝
Hemlo Gold	16⅝	16⅜	16⅝	16⅝
Horsham	19⅝	19⅜	19⅝	19⅝
Imperial Oil	51⅝	51⅜	51⅝	51⅝
Inco	45⅜	43⅝	44⅝	46
IPL Energy	34⅛	34	34⅛	34
Laidlaw A	14⅛	14	14⅛	14⅛
Laidlaw B	14⅛	14⅛	14⅛	14⅛
Loewen Group	38⅛	37⅝	37⅝	37⅝
Lon Insur Gp	27⅝	27⅛	27⅝	27⅝
Macmill Bld	18⅝	18	18⅝	18⅝
Magna Intl A	56⅝	56⅛	56⅛	57
Maple Leaf Fds	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝
Moore	27⅜	27⅛	27⅜	27⅜
Newbridge Net	69⅝	68⅝	68⅝	69⅝
Noranda Inc	28	27⅝	27⅝	28
Noranda Forest	9⅛	9⅛	9⅛	9
Norcen Energy	20⅛	20	20⅛	20⅛
Nthern Telecom	69⅝	69	69⅝	69⅝
Nova	12⅛	11⅞	11⅞	12⅛
Onex	14⅝	14⅛	14⅝	14⅝
Placer Dome	38⅝	38⅛	38⅝	38⅝
Potash Sask	106⅛	104	106⅛	104
Provigo	7⅛	7⅛	7⅛	7⅛
Quebecor Print	24⅛	23⅞	24⅛	24
Renaissance	36⅝	35⅝	36⅝	36
Rio Algom	25⅝	25⅜	25⅝	25⅝
Seagram Co	52⅛	50⅝	50⅝	51⅝
Stone Consold	19⅝	19⅜	19⅝	19⅝
Talisman Engy	31⅛	30⅝	31⅛	30⅝
Teleglobe	18⅝	18⅜	18⅝	18⅝
Telus	16⅝	16⅜	16⅝	16⅝
Thomson	20⅝	20⅜	20⅝	20⅝
TorDom Bank	25⅛	24⅝	25	24⅞
Transalta	15⅛	15	15	15⅛
TransCda Pipe	19⅝	19⅜	19⅝	19⅝
Utd Dominion	33⅛	32⅝	32⅝	33⅛
Westburn	10⅛	10	10⅛	10
Westcoast Eny	21⅝	21½	21½	21⅝
Weston	49⅛	49	49	49

TSE Industrials index: 5045.31
Previous: 5049.87

Vienna

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aust Airlines	1898	1898	1898	1900
Brau-Un Goess	626	624	625	620
Bond Vers Pfd	441	441	441	441
Creditanst PC	1485	1465	1465	1506
EA-Generali	3555	3540	3555	3561
EVN	1440	1430	1435	1431
Intercunfall	1580	1580	1580	1600
Lenzing	886	880	886	885
Leykam	354	349	351	352
Mayr-Melnhof	520	514	516	519
OEMV	967	960	960	962
Oest Brau-Bet	551	544	544	547
Oest Elektriz	672	665	665	671
VA Tech	1413	1408	1407	1400
Wienerberger	2250	2225	2250	2240

ATX index: 1043.00
Previous: 1042.87

Wellington

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	3.55	3.49	3.54	3.48
Brierly Invt	1.27	1.25	1.27	1.24
Carter Holt ord	3.15	3.12	3.15	3.12
Fernz	4.40	4.30	4.40	4.35
Fisher Paykel	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.58
Fletcher Chall	3.37	3.36	3.37	3.30
Fletcher For	2.10	2.08	2.10	2.08
Goodman Fder	1.56	1.54	1.54	1.55
Indep News	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95
Lion Nathan	3.47	3.43	3.43	3.45
Nat Gas note	2.01	2.01	2.01	2.01
NZ Refining	24.60	24.60	24.60	24.50
Telecom NZ	6.36	6.27	6.27	6.32
Trust Bk NZ	1.97	1.96	1.96	1.97
Wilson Horton	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95

NZSE-40 index: 2092.04
Previous: 2084.82

Zurich

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adia B	232	225	226	233
Alusuisse R	973	956	967	967
Ares-Serono B	930	920	930	925
Baer Hdg B	1243	1230	1230	1235
Baloise Hdg R	2395	2380	2385	2390
BBC B	1413	1403	1413	1397
Bk Vision	1497	1485	1490	1497
Bobst B	1900	1890	1900	1880
Ciba Geigy R	1029	1020	1022	1025
CS Holdings R	113.75	112.50	112.75	113
Elektrowatt B	418	414	415	417
Fischer B	1625	1595	1600	1580
Hilti PC	900	890	891	890
Holderbank B	852	842	843	847
Landis Gyr R	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	950
Merkur Hdg R	266	264	266	264
Nestle R	1293	1285	1287	1294
Oerlikon R	106.25	105	105.25	107.50
Pargesa Hld B	1440	1440	1440	1450
PharmVsn B	6030	5990	6015	6030
Pirelli B	146	141	144	145
Roche Hdg PC	9015	8975	8975	8960
Sandoz R	1063	1056	1057	1059
SBC B	432	429	432	427
Schindler B	1390	1335	1375	1350
SGS B	2400	2390	2395	2400
SMH B	730	725	729	730
Sulzer R	790	781	784	780
Swiss Reins R	1287	1282	1284	1191
Swissair R	1024	1016	1018	1018
UBS B	1266	1249	1251	1258
Winterthur B	782	770	777	770
Zurich Assur R	318	314	318	313

SPI index: 2123.47
Previous: 2125.58

EUROPE

British Petroleum's Profit Disappoints

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — British Petroleum Co. shares fell Tuesday after the company announced a fourth-quarter loss of £160 million ($245 million).

The loss, calculated on a replacement-cost basis, which takes into account changes in the value of unsold oil stocks, compares with a net profit of £382 million for the same period in 1994. The 1995 figure included exceptional charges totaling £667 million, which the company took to overhaul its refining operations.

Excluding all charges, fourth-quarter profit at BP rose 17 percent on a replacement-cost basis, to £501 million, compared with £427 million a year ago.

BP said the increase was fueled by a 2 percent rise in oil prices, improved margins in the chemical business and reduced costs. Those factors offset weak refining margins.

The company, confident that profit will rise in 1996, raised its quarterly dividend to 4.25 pence per share, from 4.00 pence.

Yet the results were not as good as some analysts expected, and BP stock fell 8.5 pence, to 536.5.

For all of 1995, British Petroleum earned a profit of £2.01 billion, excluding charges of £893 million for costs related to the sale or closure of refineries. That compares with a 1994 net profit of £1.58 billion.

BP's chief executive, John Browne, said cost cuts and rising sales would help profit rise in 1996 even if oil prices remain flat.

BP expects to raise oil and gas production this year as new fields come on stream in the North Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. It also expects better results from its refining business after shedding unprofitable assets. *(AFP, Bloomberg)*

■ Reuters Profit Surges

Stock in Reuters Holdings PLC rose sharply Tuesday as investors speculated the company would repurchase shares after posting a 17 percent rise in 1995 pretax profit, *Bloomberg Business News* reported.

The world's largest distributor of financial information said pretax profit rose to £599 million from £510 million in 1994 as the use of its market-trading and information-management systems increased.

The company said it would raise its annual dividend to 9.8 pence from 8 pence. Reuters stock closed 31 pence higher, at 675 pence.

Although Reuters refused to discuss whether it plans to repurchase shares, the company said it had received approval from the government to do so.

Brittan Takes Aim At Trade Barriers Erected by the U.S.

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Union's trade chief promised tough new measures Tuesday to break down trade barriers and identified several American practices as prime targets.

In a separate step likely to arouse concern in Asia, the Union will spell out plans to improve labor conditions in developing countries by pushing for global rules to outlaw forced labor and child labor and to guarantee workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively.

A report to be approved Wednesday by the European Commission, the EU's executive agency, says those labor standards will be one of its major objectives at the World Trade Organization's first ministerial meeting in December.

"It is time to adopt a more offensive strategy toward opening markets," Sir Leon Brittan, the EU trade commissioner and one of the authors of the report, said in a speech to the Association of Major French Enterprises in Paris.

"We will use our considerable powers to the maximum in order to ensure that our trading partners respect their WTO and other market-opening commitments."

The rhetoric was unusually aggressive for Sir Leon, a departure that reflected the importance of exports in creating jobs and the fear, particularly in France, that global competition threatens Europe's prosperity. He said he was "determined to ensure that Europe benefits economically from the liberalization in the world economy."

But EU officials played down the prospect of confrontation.

Sir Leon said the Union would use the cooperative mechanisms set up in an agreement with Washington in December to attack U.S. trade barriers. His chief targets are the "buy American" laws that bar non-U.S. companies from many government contracts, the Jones Act and its restrictions on non-U.S. shipping companies, and high American tariffs on textile and clothing imports.

On labor standards, the commission report sought to allay the concern of developing countries, saying there was "absolutely no question of depriving developing countries of their comparative advantage in labor costs." Washington has made similar statements.

But many Asian officials regard talk of labor standards as a disguise for protectionism and fear a clash on the issue when EU leaders hold their first summit meeting with the leaders of China, Japan, South Korea and the Association of South East Asian Nations on March 1 and 2 in Bangkok.

SE Banken Reverses Its '94 Loss

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

STOCKHOLM — Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB said Tuesday it returned to profit in 1995 after posting a loss because of real estate problems in 1994.

The company, the financial arm of the Wallenberg industrial group, posted profit after loan losses of 2.63 billion kronor ($378.3 million), reversing a loss of 701 million kronor.

Operating profit before bad-debt charges was down 24 percent, to 6.65 billion kronor, from 8.74 billion kronor. Bad-debt charges fell 57 percent, to 4.02 billion kronor, from 9.44 billion kronor. The bank had a loss in 1994 because of a write-down of 4.28 billion kronor on property-related assets of its Diligentia unit.

SE Banken's net income for 1995 swelled to 2.53 billion kronor from 211 million kronor.

SE Banken said it would merge its Diligentia and Aranaes property subsidiaries and spin off the new company, to be called Diligentia AB, to its shareholders.

"The real-estate spin-off is positive news," Keith Baird of Kleinwort Benson Securities said. "It will improve" the financial situation of the bank, he said. *(Bloomberg, Reuters)*

DnB Will Cut 500 Jobs To Gird for Competition

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

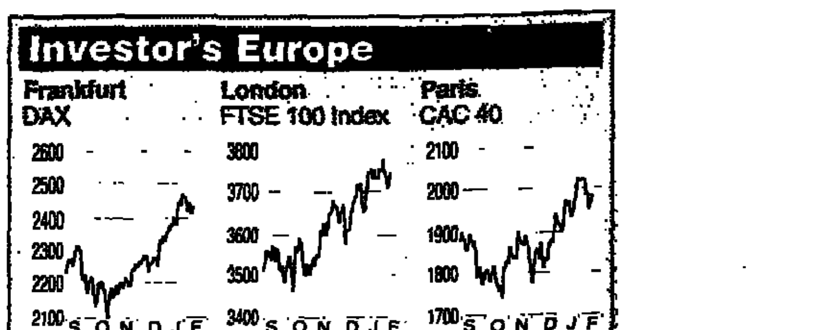
OSLO — Den norske Bank, Norway's biggest bank, said Tuesday it would cut 500 jobs, or 8 percent of the work force, following an 0.8 percent drop in net profits in 1995, to 1.66 billion kroner ($415 million).

Finn A. Hvistendahl, the bank's chief executive, said that although the 1995 results were "unusually good," the job cuts were necessary because greater competition and higher taxes will squeeze net profit in 1996 and subsequent years. He said he hoped the jobs could be eliminated on a voluntary basis.

The bank reported a 1 percent drop in operating income after loan losses, to 2.66 billion kroner. Net interest income fell 7 percent to 4.40 billion kroner. Other operating income, including fees and price adjustments on bonds and stocks, rose 20 percent to 2.94 billion kroner.

The bank also said it would increase its per-share dividend to 1.50 kroner, from 1.25 kroner last year. *(AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)*

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	EOE	509.99	503.55	+1.28
Brussels	Stock Exchange	8,807.88	8,820.63	-0.14
Frankfurt	DAX	2,433.91	2,428.05	+0.24
Copenhagen	Stock Market	391.35	389.21	+0.55
Helsinki	HEX General	1,820.06	1,823.65	-0.20
Oslo	OBX	421.78	419.85	+0.46
London	FTSE 100	3,747.60	3,726.60	+0.56
Madrid	Stock Exchange	330.92	327.91	+0.92
Milan	MIBTEL	10,078.00	9,885.00	+1.95
Paris	CAC 40	1,983.33	1,967.67	+0.80
Stockholm	SX 16	1,976.23	1,971.08	+0.26
Vienna	ATX	1,063.08	1,062.87	+0.01
Zurich	SPI	2,129.41	2,125.58	+0.18

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- Compaq Computer Corp.'s sales in Europe, the Middle East and Africa rose 40 percent in 1995, to $5.3 billion.
- Apple Computer Corp.'s British subsidiary is forming a venture with Acorn Computer Group PLC, a unit of Olivetti SpA of Italy, to make educational computers for Europe.
- ENI SpA is exploring for oil and gas at two new sites in Norway, raising the Italian company's total there to 16.
- Barilla SpA is cutting the price of its packaged pastas by 14.5 percent in Italy because of competition from discount brands.
- Allied Irish Banks PLC reported a 9 percent increase in 1995 pretax profit, to 372.6 million Irish punts ($585.8 million), on increased loan business and reduced bad debt provisions.
- Bayer AG said 1995 sales grew less than the targeted 5 percent due to a late-year slump in demand.
- Huhtamaki Oy is trying to sell its Leiras pharmaceutical division because, the Finnish company said, it is too small to survive outside of a larger pharmaceutical company.
- Tele Danmark A/S has bought DKnet, a Danish Internet supplier, for an undisclosed price.
- Heineken NV is buying 66 percent of Groupe Saint-Arnould through its French subsidiary Sogreba SA.

Names, names, names . . .

- Luis Todo-Bom, the chairman of Portugal Telecom in Lisbon, has resigned for "personal and family reasons."
- Pierre J. Everaert, executive vice president and management board member of Philips Electronics NV in Eindhoven, Netherlands, has resigned.
- Theodore Karatzas has been appointed governor of the National Bank of Greece in Athens, the country's biggest commercial bank.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFX, AFP, AP, Knight-Ridder

PolyGram Tempo Slows

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The music industry will get a jarring wake-up call Wednesday from its largest company.

PolyGram, the Philips NV unit that has seen profits grow at a compound annual rate of 17 percent for ten years, is expected to announce that earnings in 1995 were essentially unchanged from the 1994 level of 1.08 billion Dutch guilders ($653.4 million).

Alain Levy, president of PolyGram, has already called last year a "cold spell" for the company's fortunes. The question for his competitors, as well as for his investors, is whether that touch of frost will linger — or, worse, spread.

Last autumn Thorn EMI PLC warned of a slowdown in the music business. More recently, Nicholas Bell, an analyst with SBC Warburg, forecast that the industry's expansion will slow over the next five years to 8 percent from the 12 percent-a-year growth rates of the last decade.

The waning of one of the industry's greatest booms — consumers converting their record and cassette collections to compact disks — gets much of the blame. Mr. Bell, for instance, calculates that replacement still accounts for 30 percent of CD sales in the United States, a figure he forecasts to drop to 10 percent by the end of the decade.

Others point to newer challenges for the music industry, such as the paucity of internationally bankable stars. While many industries have gone global, the trend in the music industry — in terms of consumer tastes, at any rate — seems to be running in the other direction.

"The music industry is fragmenting," said Simon Calver, a Pepsico International executive. "It is not producing the same sort of international teen icons that it used to."

Paris Fines Building Cartel

AFX News

PARIS — The Competition Council said Tuesday it was fined 36 construction companies a total of 388 million francs ($76.6 million) for collaborating in bidding on large projects to inhibit competition.

Bouygues SA was fined the largest amount, 148.7 million francs, the council said. Other fines included l'Entreprise Industrielle SA, 35.8 million francs, the Campenon Bernard SGE unit of Compagnie Générale des Eaux, 31.7 million francs, Quillery SA, 23 million francs and Spie-Batignolles SA, 21.4 million francs.

The council said the companies had colluded from 1988 to 1990 on contracts valued at a total of 10 billion francs on high-speed train lines in northern and southeastern France and on bridge projects including the Pont de Normandie near the mouth of the Seine.

To ensure an equal share of contracts on the high-speed TGV trains, the companies organized themselves into four groups, it said.

The council said the companies' practices were "particularly grave" because of their "systematic and generalized character." The collusion affected infrastructure projects of major importance on "a national and European Union scale," it said.

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close
The top 300 most-active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	5562.57	5627.96	5562.57	5601.23	+1.88
Trans	2018.46	2037.96	2015.58	2032.67	+10.84
Util	233.89	235.88	233.02	234.08	
Comp	1792.18	1811.87	1791.39	1804.01	+3.17

Standard & Poors

	High	Low	Close	Chg.
Industrials	777.93	770.68	773.90	−1.29
Transp.	507.82	501.95	504.40	+0.63
Utilities	214.74	211.83	212.49	−1.34
Finance	67.78	67.02	67.43	+0.22
SP 500	664.23	657.92	660.51	−0.94
SP 100	637.24	630.68	633.48	−1.16

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	352.80	350.26	351.28	−0.42
Industrials	442.94	439.62	441.11	−0.59
Transp.	318.67	316.01	317.34	+0.17
Utility	267.49	264.80	265.47	−1.22
Finance	295.84	293.34	294.60	+0.47

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1093.76	1080.26	1088.53	−4.88
Industrials	996.61	986.08	992.63	−4.02
Banks	1039.28	1035.60	1039.38	+0.37
Insurance	1352.34	1332.46	1348.16	+16.36
Finance	1259.71	1255.57	1256.59	−4.01
Transp.	827.66	819.50	824.54	+1.33

AMEX

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
	562.47	560.01	560.62	−1.84

Dow Jones Bond

	Close	Chg.
20 Bonds	105.92	Unch.
10 Utilities	102.23	+0.07
10 Industrials	109.61	−0.07

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
AlcmT s	96554	37½	35¾	37⅛	+⅛
Hanson	68476	14½	14	14	−½
OfficDpt	58457	19¾	18¾	19¼	−1
WalMart	47610	22½	21⅞	22	−⅜
FordM	41311	31	30	30⅞	+⅛
Texinst s	38309	51¼	49⅜	50⅝	−1¼
Compaq	37815	50⅝	48⅞	49⅞	−1½
McDnlds	37545	53⅛	52	52½	−1⅛
TelMex	36018	32	31⅜	31⅝	−⅛
GnMotr	34381	53	52	52⅜	+⅛
LSI Logs	34137	33⅜	31½	33¼	−⅞
IBM	34040	114⅞	113½	113⅞	−1⅛
AT&T	30655	68¼	67	68	+½
Merck	28078	71⅜	70⅝	70⅝	−⅛
Tenlyn s	28056	22⅝	21½	22	—

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Intel s	97134	57⅝	56	57⅛	−1⅝
ApldMat s	84889	40	37	38⅝	−1⅝
Microsoft	71418	100⅛	97½	99⅞	−½
Cisco	66894	90⅞	87⅝	90¼	+½
Discreet s	52348	12½	9⅜	11½	−12½
DellCpt s	50046	33¼	30⅝	31¼	−2¾
AmerOn s	47812	51¼	47½	49⅜	+⅜
FtPcNtw	45782	2⅝	1⅝	2½	+⅝
Oracle s	41790	50⅜	48⅝	50¼	+⅛
BayNtwk s	41487	47½	45⅝	46½	−½
MCI	40077	31	30⅛	30¼	−⅛
SunMic s	36848	48½	47	47	−1½
Novell	33058	13⅝	13¼	13⅝	−⅛
Informix s	30207	32	31	31¼	−⅞
DSC	29882	34¾	33¼	33⅝	−⅝

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Atari	32920	2⅝	2	2¼	+⅛
ViacB	11484	42⅛	41⅜	41½	−⅛
SPDR	10370	66⅝	66	66⅛	−⅛
GreyLne	10273	3⅜	3⅛	3¼	−⅛
NY Tim	9359	27	25⅞	27	+¼
EchoBay	9108	13⅝	13⅛	13⅝	+¼
Hasbro	8749	35⅝	34⅝	35½	+⅝
InterDig	8240	8⅝	8⅛	8¼	−⅛
GayICn	7590	10½	9¾	10¼	+⅝
Ampex n	7418	5⅝	5⅛	5¼	+⅛

Trading Activity

NYSE

Not available at press time

Nasdaq

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1541	1749
Declined	2130	1099
Unchanged	1673	1692
Total issues	5344	5340
New Highs	156	218
New Lows	59	40

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	244	272
Declined	316	309
Unchanged	221	213
Total issues	781	794
New Highs	28	41
New Lows	7	7

Market Sales

	Today Close	Prev. cons.
NYSE	440.75	574.78
Amex	23.55	33.71
Nasdaq	478.01	552.65

In millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
Arethusa Ltd	-	.25	3-1	3-15
British Sky Brd	c	.2692	2-20	4-18
Corp BanEspana	c	.28	2-16	3-12
Pacific Dunlop	c	.33	6-6	7-11
c- approx amount per ADR.				
STOCK SPLIT				
Southern Union 4 for 3 split.				
INCREASED				
Hannaford Bros	Q	.12	3-8	3-21
Lake Ariel	Q	.15	2-22	3-15
Sierra Pac Resour	Q	.295	4-16	5-1
Untd FdSv RocMl	Q	.05	2-20	3-7
OMITTED				
Apple Computer	-			
INITIAL				
Gt Am Bancorp	-	.20	2-21	2-29
REGULAR				
CIM HiYld Secur	M	.065	2-23	3-4
Chart Indust	Q	.07	3-1	3-15
Clayton Homes	Q	.02	4-3	4-17
Crown Crafts	Q	.03	3-12	3-26
Dover Corp	Q	.15	2-29	3-15
Equity Inco At&T.	M	.234	2-15	3-1
Fab Indust	Q	.175	2-23	3-8
Fortis Securities	M	.067	2-12	3-15
Greenpoint Fin	Q	.20	2-23	2-29
KN energy	Q	.26	3-15	3-29
Keithley Instrum	Q	.031	3-15	3-29
Liberty TermTr 99	M	.03	2-22	3-1
Louisiana Land	Q	.06	3-1	3-15
Mid-Atlantic Rlty	Q	.23	2-29	3-15
Millipore Corp	Q	.08	3-22	4-19
Pulaski Furniture	Q	.16	3-1	3-15
Regis Corp	-	.025	2-23	3-11
Robinson Nugent	Q	.03	2-20	2-27
Sprint Corp	Q	.25	3-7	3-29
Total Petrol	Q	.073	4-5	4-19
Transactional Re	-	.05	2-23	3-7
Westwood Corp	Q	.01	3-1	3-22

a-annual; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration.
a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c - liquidating dividend. cld - called. d - new yearly low. e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax. i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend. j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading. nd - next day delivery. P/E - price-earnings ratio. r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split. sls - sales. t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u - new yearly high. v - trading halted. vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. wd - when distributed. wi - when issued/ ww - with warrants. x - ex-dividend or ex-rights. xdis - ex-distribution. xw - without warrants. y- ex-dividend and sales in full. yld - yield. z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Feb. 13, 1996

Columns: High Low Close Chge Opint

Grains

CORN (CBOT)
5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	3.72	3.65	3.71½	+0.06½	142,613
May 96	3.75½	3.69¼	3.75¼	+0.05¾	155,459
Jul 96	3.70½	3.64½	3.69¾	+0.04¼	97,339
Sep 96	3.19½	3.16	3.19¼	+0.00¾	30,171
Dec 96	3.05½	3.02½	3.04¾	−0.00¼	69,093

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 58,997
Mon's open int 502,245 up 3027

SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)
100 tons- dollars per ton

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	226.00	224.20	225.90	-1.60	26,244
May 96	230.00	228.20	229.90	+1.70	27,868
Jul 96	232.50	230.60	232.40	-2.00	19,360
Aug 96	231.50	229.80	231.50	+1.30	3,858
Sep 96	228.30	227.00	228.00	+1.50	2,574
Oct 96	224.50	223.00	223.30	-0.30	1,877

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 18,195
Mon's open int 89,397 up 1906

SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)
60,000 lbs- dollars per 100 lbs.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	24.50	24.33	24.44	−0.10	33,403
May 96	24.87	24.69	24.80	−0.09	20,790
Jul 96	25.23	25.07	25.17	−0.11	16,588
Aug 96	25.39	25.25	25.32	−0.10	4,678
Sep 96	25.50	25.42	25.49	−0.09	2,097
Oct 96	25.70	25.57	25.68	−0.06	1,936

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 22,487
Mon's open int 86,368 off 360

SOYBEANS (CBOT)
5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	7.22½	7.16½	7.22	+0.04¼	66,751
May 96	7.32½	7.26½	7.32	+0.04½	45,380
Jul 96	7.40	7.34½	7.39½	−0.03½	37,168
Aug 96	7.40½	7.35½	7.40¼	+0.03	3,912
Sep 96	7.22½	7.18½	7.21	−0.00¼	2,864

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 54,202
Mon's open int 282,014 up 2469

WHEAT (CBOT)
5,000 bu minimum- dollars per bushel

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	5.16	5.08½	5.15¼	+0.03½	34,463
May 96	4.97	4.90½	4.96	+0.02¾	17,923
Jul 96	4.57½	4.51½	4.56½	+0.07¾	40,296
Sep 96	4.57	4.51	4.56¼	−0.02¼	7,945

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 14,307
Mon's open int 185,677 off 25

Livestock

CATTLE (CMER)
40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	64.75	64.58	64.52	−0.25	6,447
Apr 96	65.15	64.77	64.82	−0.43	34,048
Jun 96	62.82	62.52	62.57	−0.28	18,364
Aug 96	62.17	62.00	62.02	−0.20	8,301
Oct 96	63.12	62.90	62.92	−0.20	8,460
Dec 96	62.35	62.25	62.30	−0.12	4,737

Est. sales 7,733 Mon's. sales 8,309
Mon's open int 82,441 off 157

FEEDER CATTLE (CMER)
50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	59.15	58.40	58.45	−0.72	6,354
Apr 96	58.80	58.10	58.15	−0.47	3,361
May 96	58.85	58.10	58.12	−0.59	4,095
Aug 96	58.97	58.27	58.35	−0.57	4,273
Sep 96	58.82	58.30	58.40	−0.40	697
Oct 96	58.95	58.30	58.45	−0.45	890

Est. sales 1,907 Mon's. sales 2,519
Mon's open int 20,121 off 598

HOGS-Live(3/97 Lean) (CMER)
40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	50.30	49.60	50.10	+0.15	2,453
Apr 96	47.80	47.30	47.42	−0.33	12,537
Jun 96	52.70	52.15	52.40	−0.27	9,187
Jul 96	51.30	50.90	50.95	−0.25	2,784
Aug 96	49.80	49.20	49.45		4,162
Oct 96	45.55	45.20	45.30	+0.05	1,860

Est. sales 6,887 Mon's. sales 7,023
Mon's open int 34,880 off 647

PORK BELLIES (CMER)
40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	60.60	59.40	60.35	+0.15	519
Mar 96	60.25	59.35	59.77	−0.28	2,917
May 96	61.05	60.27	60.57	−0.15	2,279
Jul 96	59.50	59.00	59.17	−0.38	1,254
Aug 96	56.50	56.20	56.20	−0.30	255

Est. sales 1,861 Mon's. sales 3,017
Mon's open int 7,224 up 28

Food

COCOA (NCSE)
10 metric tons- $ per ton

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	1270	1257	1268	+9	11,487
May 96	1300	1287	1299	+11	36,301
Jul 96	1322	1310	1320	+12	13,955
Sep 96	1339	1331	1339	+11	11,004
Dec 96	1370	1369	1370	+10	9,763

Est. sales 12,185 Mon's. sales 12,950
Mon's open int 92,570 up 211

COFFEE C (NCSE)
37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	125.50	120.40	122.80	+1.20	9,548
May 96	122.95	118.50	120.45	+1.05	11,816
Jul 96	120.75	116.75	118.55	+0.65	3,423
Sep 96	117.50	117.00	117.35	+0.50	2,231

Est. sales 8,471 Mon's. sales 12,430
Mon's open int 28,494 off 384

SUGAR-WORLD 11 (NCSE)
112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	12.27	12.10	12.20	−0.09	50,819
May 96	11.64	11.53	11.61	−0.04	41,468
Jul 96	10.76	10.66	10.74	+0.02	29,187
Oct 96	10.49	10.37	10.49	+0.03	24,547

Est. sales 2,541 Mon's. sales 4,258
Mon's open int 162,689 off 522

ORANGE JUICE (NCTN)
15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	124.25	123.10	123.55	−0.85	9,095
May 96	125.05	124.00	124.80	−1.25	6,382
Jul 96	125.90	124.20	124.20	−2.05	1,836
Sep 96	125.65	124.20	124.20	−2.05	1,465

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 3,616
Mon's open int 21,176 off 78

Metals

GOLD (NCMX)
100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	404.00	402.50	403.00	+1.80	392
Mar 96	403.00	401.50	403.40	+1.80	4
Apr 96	406.00	402.50	405.10	+1.80	123,468
Jun 96	408.30	405.20	407.70	+2.00	31,807
Aug 96	410.00	408.30	409.60	-2.10	11,373
Oct 96	411.60	411.60	411.50	+2.10	3,917
Dec 96	413.70	411.90	413.48	+2.18	14,094
Feb 97			415.20	+2.10	4,617

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 67,803
Mon's open int 226,850 off 5556

HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX)
25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	116.00	114.10	114.60	−2.30	2,283
Mar 96	115.70	112.80	113.40	−2.40	19,833
Apr 96	113.50	113.00	113.00	−2.00	1,129
May 96	113.70	111.60	112.80	−2.20	9,408
Jul 96	111.90	110.30	110.60	−1.70	3,081
Aug 96	111.00	110.40	109.80	−1.50	
Sep 96	109.90	109.10	109.00	−1.30	2,720
Oct 96	109.20	109.20	108.40	−1.20	
Nov 96	107.00	107.00	107.70	−1.10	

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 5,901
Mon's open int 45,487 up 66

SILVER (NCMX)
5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	571.0	571.0	570.6	+4.9	1
Mar 96	573.5	564.0	571.7	+4.7	61,398
Apr 96			574.1	+4.7	
May 96	579.0	569.5	577.2	+4.9	20,357
Jul 96	583.5	573.0	581.4	+4.9	9,604
Sep 96	588.5	579.0	585.8	+4.9	10,857
Dec 96	593.0	583.5	592.1	+4.9	6,471
Jan 97			594.9	+4.9	

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 24,461
Mon's open int 113,219 up 2998

PLATINUM (NMER)
50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96			420.10	+5.40	1
Apr 96	426.00	420.60	425.10	+5.40	16,470
Jul 96	427.50	425.00	427.30	+5.40	3,825
Oct 96	431.00	427.00	429.80	+5.40	1,300
Jan 97			432.00	+5.40	

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 3,036
Mon's open int 21,241 off 321

LONDON METALS (LME)
Dollars per metric ton

	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1609.00	1610.00	1631½	1632½
Forward	1638.00	1639.00	1658.00	1659.00
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	2502.00	2504.00	2550.00	2553.00
Forward	2490.00	2492.00	2525.00	2526.00
Lead				
Spot	747.00	748.00	758.00	759.00
Forward	750.00	751.00	760.00	761.00
Nickel				
Spot	8095.00	8105.00	8180.00	8190.00
Forward	8200.00	8210.00	8285.00	8290.00
Tin				
Spot	6185.00	6195.00	6230.00	6240.00
Forward	6255.00	6260.00	6290.00	6295.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1022½	1023½	1031½	1032½
Forward	1044.00	1045.00	1053.00	1054.00

Financial

US T. BILLS (CMER)
$1 million- pts of 100 pct.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	95.35	95.33	95.35	+0.02	9,413
Jun 96	95.68	95.66	95.67	+0.01	7,687
Sep 96	95.84	95.82	95.84	+0.04	928

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 388
Mon's open int 18,238 off 50

5 YR. TREASURY (CBOT)
$100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	111-145	111-075	111-13	+ 045	157,782
Jun 96	111-065	111-00	111-055	+ 05	24,818
Sep 96			111-02	+ 05	6,450

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 33,684
Mon's open int 189,050 up 6804

10 YR. TREASURY (CBOT)
$100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	115-14	115-03	115-10	+ 06	254,730
Jun 96	114-26	114-16	114-21	+ 05	41,079
Sep 96	114-26	114-26	114-26	+ 08	6,857

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 53,765
Mon's open int 302,493 up 1463

US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT)
(8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	121-00	120-12	120-23	+ 04	331,812
Jun 96	120-15	119-28	120-08	+ 05	50,978
Sep 96	119-28	119-11	119-27	+ 11	6,522

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 343,401
Mon's open int 392,119 up 9171

LONG GILT (LIFFE)
£50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	109-23	109-08	109-14	+ 0-04	135,445
Jun 96	108-30	108-23	108-23	+ 0-05	1,854

Est. sales: 61,533. Prev. sales: 36,941
Prev. open int.: 137,299 off 936

GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE)
DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	99.23	98.93	99.06	+ 0.31	224,968
Jun 96	98.34	98.09	98.19	+ 0.32	19,686
Sep 96	N.T.	N.T.	97.36	+ 0.32	

Est. sales: 162,419. Prev. sales: 131,396
Prev. open int.: 254,500 off 3,275

10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF)
FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	122.20	121.92	122.04	+ 0.28	
Jun 96	122.30	122.10	122.18	+ 0.26	
Sep 96	121.02	120.86	120.94	+ 0.26	
Dec 97	N.T.	N.T.	120.18	+ 0.28	

Est volume:167,180. Open int.:165,256

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE)
ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	112.43	111.74	112.29	+ 1.00	60,130
Jun 96	111.80	111.30	111.83	+ 1.00	3,824

Est. sales: 40,615. Prev. sales: 52,109
Prev. open int.: 65,954 off 2,577

EURODOLLARS (CMER)
$1 million-pts of 100 pct.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	94.760	94.740	94.760	+20	17,548
Mar 96	94.860	94.830	94.840	+10	393,459
Apr 96	94.990	94.970	94.990	+10	5,434
Jun 96	95.250	95.210	95.230	+10	446,179
Sep 96	95.420	95.370	95.400	+20	329,389
Dec 96	95.390	95.340	95.380	+30	307,467
Mar 97	95.360	95.310	95.340	+30	191,555
Jun 97	95.210	95.160	95.200	+40	186,335

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 208,993
Mon's open int 2,491,163 up 7360

BRITISH POUND (CMER)
62,500 pounds, $ per pound

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	1.5364	1.5270	1.5352	+64	42,498
Jun 96	1.5350	1.5270	1.5310	+54	4,304

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 35,357
Mon's open int 46,838 off 2130

CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER)
100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	.7296	.7281	.7286	−5	30,524
Jun 96	.7297	.7284	.7288	−5	2,841
Sep 96	.7293	.7286	.7288	−4	744
Dec 96	.7285	.7282	.7282	−5	1,149

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 2,454
Mon's open int 35,474 up 82

GERMAN MARK (CMER)
125,000 marks, $ per mark

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	.6804	.6775	.6794	+6	73,887
Jun 96	.6832	.6808	.6828	+8	3,785
Sep 96	.6855	.6835	.6842	−5	1,402

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 15,422
Mon's open int 19,584 off 61241

JAPANESE YEN (CMER)
12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	.009422	.009383	.009402	−6	74,128
Jun 96	.009515	.009495	.009506	−8	5,459
Sep 96	.009610	.009610	.009610		733

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 18,458
Mon's open int 80,515 off 652

SWISS FRANC (CMER)
125,000 francs, $ per franc

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	.8368	.8305	.8333	+3	41,904
Jun 96	.8409	.8378	.8403	+5	1,823

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 13,574
Mon's open int 44,305 up 102

3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE)
£500,000 - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	93.90	93.88	93.88	Unch.	76,662
Jun 96	94.22	94.18	94.20	+ 0.01	90,037
Sep 96	94.21	94.17	94.19	+ 0.01	82,072
Dec 96	94.01	93.97	93.99	+ 0.02	46,292
Mar 97	93.71	93.66	93.70	+ 0.03	31,958
Jun 97	93.41	93.38	93.40	+ 0.04	32,199
Sep 97	93.15	93.11	93.14	+ 0.04	22,095
Dec 97	92.87	92.84	92.87	+ 0.05	13,625
Mar 98	92.63	92.60	92.63	+ 0.05	7,156
Jun 98	92.45	92.42	92.45	+ 0.05	5,166
Sep 98	92.31	92.28	92.31	+ 0.05	3,968
Dec 98	92.18	92.15	92.18	+ 0.05	4,036

Est. sales: 48,302. Prev. sales: 71,192
Prev. open int.: 395,286 off 1,770

3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE)
DM1 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	96.80	96.76	96.77	− 0.01	177,994
Jun 96	96.86	96.82	96.83	− 0.01	166,487
Sep 96	96.75	96.71	96.72	+ 0.01	171,028
Dec 96	96.54	96.48	96.50	+ 0.02	151,216
Mar 97	96.22	96.17	96.20	+ 0.04	123,898
Jun 97	95.88	95.81	95.85	+ 0.04	101,088
Sep 97	95.53	95.47	95.50	+ 0.03	69,639
Dec 97	95.18	95.14	95.15	+ 0.02	45,506
Mar 98	94.89	94.84	94.85	+ 0.02	28,208
Jun 98	94.61	94.56	94.56	+ 0.01	22,630
Sep 98	94.32	94.29	94.27	+ 0.01	14,574
Dec 98	94.02	93.99	93.99	+ 0.01	10,262

Est. sales: 85,320. Prev. sales: 72,589
Prev. open int.: 1,082,530 off 4,986

3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF)
FF5 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	95.57	95.51	95.51	− 0.04	
Jun 96	95.71	95.63	95.64	− 0.04	
Sep 96	95.71	95.64	95.65	− 0.03	
Dec 96	95.55	95.49	95.51	− 0.01	
Mar 97	95.33	95.27	95.29	Unch.	
Jun 97	95.11	95.07	95.06	− 0.01	
Sep 97	94.90	94.87	94.87	+ 0.02	
Dec 97	94.70	94.67	94.68	+ 0.03	

Est. volume:51,775. Open int.:207,564

3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE)
ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	90.59	90.48	90.57	+ 0.06	41,474
Jun 96	91.21	91.14	91.17	+ 0.05	31,258
Sep 96	91.48	91.40	91.46	+ 0.09	18,963
Dec 96	91.49	91.42	91.49	+ 0.10	15,262
Mar 97	91.43	91.39	91.44	+ 0.08	5,431
Jun 97	91.40	91.38	91.39	+ 0.07	2,346

Est. sales: 12,173. Prev. sales: 14,123
Prev. open int.: 110,735 up 476

Industrials

COTTON 2 (NCTN)
50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	84.65	83.40	84.50	+0.17	14,220
May 96	85.55	84.31	85.45	+0.19	17,094
Jul 96	85.65	84.60	85.45	−0.02	10,927
Oct 96	80.70	80.10	80.70	+0.10	3,028
Dec 96	78.80	78.15	78.75	+0.14	13,414
Mar 97	79.10	79.00	79.35	+0.10	

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 8,874
Mon's open int 61,102 off 669

HEATING OIL (NMER)
42,000 gal- cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	54.60	53.65	54.40	+2.71	38,243
Apr 96	51.70	49.95	51.60	+1.65	16,787
May 96	49.10	48.05	49.00	+1.40	10,290
Jun 96	48.00	47.00	48.00	+1.25	10,189
Jul 96	47.85	47.15	47.85	+1.05	6,134
Aug 96	48.45	47.65	48.45	+1.10	5,184
Sep 96	49.25	48.10	49.25	+1.15	2,372
Nov 96	50.35	50.25	50.35	+0.85	2,078
Dec 96	51.20	51.00	51.10	+0.90	5,606
Jan 97	51.30	51.25	51.30	+0.85	2,466

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 21,442
Mon's open int 92,540 up 365

LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER)
1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	18.85	17.98	18.82	+0.85	55,396
Apr 96	18.30	17.46	18.29	+0.79	74,167
May 96	17.96	17.22	17.94	+0.68	45,091
Jun 96	17.77	17.09	17.77	+0.65	35,059
Jul 96	17.60	17.05	17.60	+0.55	28,423
Aug 96	17.50	17.12	17.50	+0.50	14,841
Sep 96	17.43	16.97	17.38	+0.43	14,442
Oct 96	17.35	17.04	17.35	+0.43	11,904
Nov 96	17.29	17.15	17.29	+0.38	12,487
Dec 96	17.32	17.05	17.30	+0.40	24,850
Jan 97	17.30	17.08	17.22	+0.32	11,514
Feb 97	17.31	17.14	17.30	+0.40	7,307
Mar 97	17.20	17.20	17.20	+0.30	4,162

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 64,918
Mon's open int 394,077 up 95584

NATURAL GAS (NMER)
10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	2.690	2.440	2.680	+224	30,837
Apr 96	2.331	2.218	2.331	+100	21,563
May 96	2.160	2.078	2.168	−75	14,734
Jun 96	2.035	1.995	2.040	+45	12,683
Jul 96	1.965	1.940	1.965	+20	10,278
Aug 96	1.925	1.905	1.920	+10	9,706
Sep 96	1.900	1.880	1.900	+10	8,188
Oct 96	1.925	1.900	1.920	+10	7,459
Nov 96	2.080	1.965	1.995	+15	4,724
Dec 96	2.100	2.070	2.100	+30	8,782
Jan 97	2.110	2.095	2.110	+30	3,407

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 19,794
Mon's open int 155,018 up 1476

UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER)
42,000 gal- cents per gal

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	55.25	53.00	55.10	+2.10	22,349
Apr 96	57.20	55.01	57.15	+2.02	18,585
May 96	56.45	55.10	56.65	+1.82	10,529
Jun 96	55.90	54.70	55.89	+1.52	5,452
Jul 96	55.15	54.20	55.15	+1.57	3,424
Aug 96	53.95	53.25	53.90	+1.10	2,486

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 14,440
Mon's open int 63,985 up 798

GASOIL (IPE)
U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	170.50	160.25	170.00	+10.00	22,090
Apr 96	158.25	152.50	158.25	+5.75	11,816
May 96	152.50	148.75	152.25	+3.75	6,543
Jun 96	150.00	146.75	150.00	+3.50	6,349
July 96	149.50	146.50	149.50	+3.25	4,787
Aug 96	149.50	149.25	150.00	+2.50	2,098
Sep 96	150.75	150.75	151.00	+2.25	1,364
Oct 96	152.25	152.25	152.75	+2.50	683
Nov 96	N.T.	N.T.	153.75	+2.50	513

Est. sales:31,375. Open int.: 59,574 off 10,413

BRENT OIL (IPE)
U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	17.90	16.86	17.79	+0.86	17,106
Apr 96	17.25	16.30	17.18	+0.84	78,454
May 96	16.78	15.97	16.78	+0.78	23,429
June 96	16.50	15.86	16.59	+0.72	20,863
July 96	16.47	15.78	16.47	+0.68	13,157
Aug 96	16.09	15.77	16.38	+0.63	5,492
Sep 96	N.T.	N.T.	16.33	+0.61	9,564
Oct 96	N.T.	N.T.	16.29	+0.60	2,349
Nov 96	16.05	16.05	16.26	+0.59	2,015
Dec 96	16.10	16.02	16.24	+0.59	4,667
Jan 97	N.T.	N.T.	16.23	+0.59	8,536
Feb 97	N.T.	N.T.	16.23	+0.58	2,702

Est. sales: 89,328. Open int.: 198,328, off 2,722

Stock Indexes

S&P COMP. INDEX (CMER)
500 x index

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	667.10	660.90	664.95	+0.70	193,830
Jun 96	673.20	667.10	671.40	+1.00	15,258
Sep 96	677.80	671.90	676.50	+1.40	3,913
Dec 96	681.80	676.10	680.00	+0.75	1,190

Est. sales N.A. Mon's. sales 93,310
Mon's open int 213,491 up 2118

FTSE 100 (LIFFE)
£25 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Mar 96	3761.0	3735.0	3753.0	+ 30.0	62,753
Jun 96	3749.0	3744.0	3757.0	+ 28.5	2,220
Sep 96	N.T.	N.T.	3773.0	+ 28.0	267

Est. sales: 11,960. Prev. sales: 11,075
Prev. open int.: 65,240 off 63

CAC 40 (MATIF)
FF200 per index point

	High	Low	Close	Chge	Opint
Feb 96	1993.0	1975.0	1992.0	+ 17.0	
Mar 96	1999.0	1985.0	1999.0	+ 17.0	
Apr 96	1999.0	1986.0	2003.0	+ 16.0	
Jun 96	1966.0	1966.0	1976.0	+ 17.0	
Sep 96	1983.0	1975.0	1987.0	+ 18.0	

Est. volume:18,583. Open int.:N.A.

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	1,474.60	1,474.00
Reuters	2,143.40	2,151.30
D.J. Futures	151.36	151.39
CRB	249.68	247.40

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close

Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

On March 23rd, the IHT will publish a Sponsored Section on

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- Telecommunications and information technology.
- Stock exchanges and capital markets.
- Transportation.
- Privatizing state-owned concerns.

This section precedes the annual meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank in Buenos Aires on March 25-27.

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Continued on Page 16

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February 13, 1996

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

NASDAQ

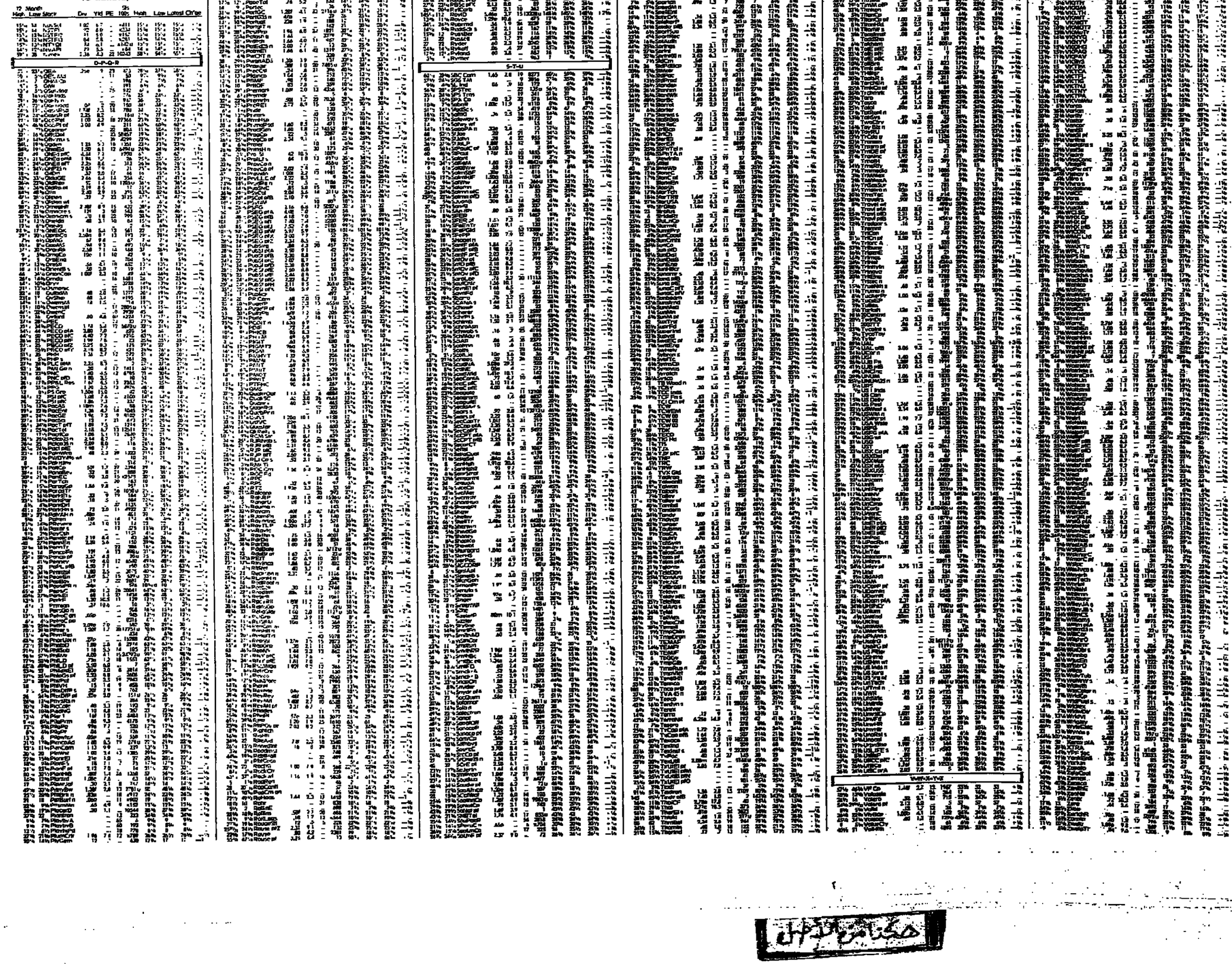
Tuesday's 4 p.m.

The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 p.m. Close

(Continued)



Singapore Bars Firms Named in Corruption Case From Contracts

Bloomberg Business News

SINGAPORE — A government official said Tuesday that Singapore had barred five foreign companies from new government contracts for five years after the companies were named in one of the country's biggest corruption cases.

Tomen Corp. and Marubeni Corp. of Japan and units of BICC Cables PLC of Britain, Siemens AG of Germany and Pirelli SpA of Italy were named in court documents in a case that resulted in the conviction of Choy Hon Tim, former deputy chief executive of the Public Utilities Board.

Mr. Choy was convicted in November of five charges of corruption and criminal conspiracy. He was sentenced to 14 years in prison and ordered to repay 13.5 million Singapore dollars ($9.6 million) in bribes.

In Milan, a Pirelli spokesman said the company had been informed of the penalty but not of the reason for it. He said Pirelli believed Singapore's action had been "based on a misunderstanding of the facts."

Executives of the other companies were not immediately available for comment.

"All five companies have been debarred" until January 2001, Lorna Wu, chairman of the Finance Ministry's standing committee on debarment, said.

Debarment means the companies are banned from bidding for all new contracts from the government.

The Pirelli spokesman estimated the company's business with the Public Utilities Board and related companies at about 20 million dollars annually.

In November, a Siemens executive estimated the company's annual sales to those Singapore concerns at 300 million dollars.

Marubeni is the main contractor on the multibillion-dollar Tuas Power plant under construction in western Singapore.

The Utilities Board said in November that it would consider barring the companies from government contracts after a review of court documents.

Mr. Choy was convicted of having received millions of dollars from another former Utilities Board employee acting as a consultant to the foreign companies, which were suppliers to power plants built by the board.

Court documents said he had "corruptly accepted" money from the consultant, Lee Peng Siong, to enable Mr. Lee to "provide privileged information and assistance" to the five companies.

The consultant now lives in Australia, and the Public Utilities Board is trying to recover money the five companies paid to him.

The Finance Ministry listed the barred companies as BICC Cables (Singapore) Pte., BICC Supertension Cable (1980) Ltd., Marubeni Corp., Cables Pirelli SA, Pirelli General PLC, Pirelli Cavi SpA, Siemens AG, Siemens (Pte.) and Tomen Corp.

Mark Davies Jones, an analyst at Merrill Lynch & Co. who covers BICC, said he did not expect the ruling to have a major impact on the company's Asian operations.

Lotus Wins An Increase In Damages

Bloomberg Business News

SINGAPORE — Lotus Development Corp. was awarded increased damages of $2.3 million in damages in a copyright-infringement case, lawyers for the U.S. software company said Tuesday.

Ong Seow Pheng, 44, an accountant, was ordered to pay the damages for selling pirated Lotus software and manuals in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan, Sri Lanka and the Middle East. Most of the sales were to retailers in Singapore.

Lotus, a subsidiary of International Business Machines Corp. that was awarded $230,000 in the civil case Oct. 12, appealed to the Singapore High Court for higher compensation. The higher damages were awarded Feb. 2 and announced Tuesday.

Mr. Ong was sentenced to seven months in prison and ordered to pay Lotus's legal costs after he was found guilty in 1993 criminal proceedings. His wife was convicted and fined 22,500 Singapore dollars ($15,900) in the criminal case for assisting him.

Sweet Nothings Add Spice

A TV Report Sets Off a Surge in Cocoa Powder

Bloomberg Business News

TOKYO — Valentine's Day came early for Japanese chocolate makers.

This time, though, it is unsweetened cocoa powder, not boxes of chocolate-covered cherries, that are flying off grocers' shelves, which leads to a tale of the odd things that sometimes make Japanese stocks jump around.

In this case it was a popular television show called "*Omoi-kiri Terebi*," or "No-Holds-Barred TV," which reported on Dec. 4 that cocoa powder — used with sugar to make chocolate drinks — may help ward off senility, cancer and ulcers.

The claims were loosely based on a researchers' symposium a few months earlier sponsored by the chocolate manufacturers' association and the Health and Agriculture ministries.

Now there is hardly a jar or a packet of cocoa powder to be found in stores across Japan.

"Right after the show aired, it completely disappeared from the shelves," said Daitsuke Okuno, spokesman for Morinaga & Co., an 86-year-old confectioner and Japan's biggest seller of cocoa powder.

Morinaga's stock has jumped 21 percent since then, closing Tuesday at 477 yen ($4.46), up 1.

A competitor, Meiji Seika Co., rose 13 percent in the same period, to 665, up 2 on Tuesday, while the Topix stock market index gained only 7 percent.

The surge doesn't make a lot of sense, though, because cocoa powder is just a small fraction of these companies' sales, and the whole cocoa-powder market has been only about $141 million a year.

Even though sales will probably double this year, the so-called cocoa boom is unlikely to substantially boost their earnings.

Chocolate sales are falling as Japanese consumers cut back on luxuries after five years of sluggish economic growth and reduce their consumption of sweets for health reasons.

"People are consuming less sugar," said Patricia Horvath, an analyst at UBS Securities Ltd. in Tokyo. "It has to do with health consciousness more than anything else."

For the first half of the financial year that ends next month, Morinaga posted a current, or pretax, loss of 1.39 billion yen. For the full year, however, the company has forecast a 1.7 billion yen profit, its first in three years.

The picture at Meiji Seika, Japan's biggest chocolate maker, is a little more favorable. Profit rose 17 percent, to 2.71 billion yen, in the first half of the current financial year, and the company is forecasting full-year profit of 7 billion yen.

Last year it had profit of 6.7 billion yen after two years of declines, although much of its earnings came from its drug-manufacturing business.

Meanwhile, when jars of cocoa powder show up on grocery shelves these days, there is a limit of one per customer.

"I don't know if it works, but customers' reaction to the news was swift," said Shiniichi Ozawa, 40, manager of a supermarket in Tokyo's upper-middle-class Suginami ward.

It probably does not work, doctors say.

The benefits ascribed to cocoa by some researchers have yet to be widely accepted in the medical community, said Dr. John Marshall of the Tokyo Medical and Surgical Clinic. "I would certainly take it with a huge pinch of salt," he said — meaning the claims, not the cocoa powder.

How long the cocoa boom will last is anyone's guess. But if it is up to shoppers like Sachio Agata, it has some life left. A 32-year-old mother of two, she was scanning the shelves for unsweetened cocoa powder recently. There was not any, so she settled for a jar of vitamin-fortified chocolate drink. "I probably would have bought cocoa powder if it was available" she said. "It's supposed to be good for children."

Chinese Confectioners' Outlook Sours

Reuters

BEIJING — Valentine's Day offers a boom for foreign chocolate makers seeking to cash in on China's taste for sweets, while puzzled domestic competitors struggle just to hold their ground.

"For Valentine's Day, we promote sales in all major shopping centers to make consumers familiar with Vochelle," said Lee Siew Yin, manager of Beijing Vochelle, a Chinese-Malaysian joint venture licensed from Switzerland.

Officials of China's premier chocolate manufacturer, Yili Foods, on the other hand, said they had no special marketing strategy to boost sales for Valentine's Day on Wednesday.

Chocolate consumption in China is soaring. At Beijing department stores, foreign companies have set up stalls staffed by young women offering roses and paper hearts as gifts for shoppers buying chocolates for Valentine's Day. Buyers were plentiful.

Chocolate consumption more than doubled, to almost 22,000 tons in 1994, from 9,500 tons in 1988.

In the same period, retail sales surged to 1.1 billion yuan ($132.6 million) from 128 million yuan. But the buying tended to be concentrated in major cities such as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, and much of the new business has gone to foreign manufacturers.

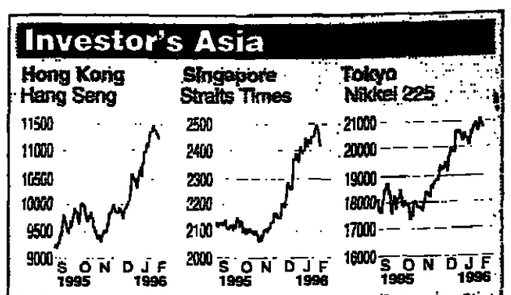
The problems of Chinese confectioners were underlined in the Market Daily, which reported that more than 60 percent had closed since 1988, leaving fewer than 600 factories producing candies and chocolate.

"The flood of foreign candies has shocked domestic producers, because foreign companies put in huge investment in packaging and advertisement," said an official of Beijing Sugar, Tobacco & Wine Corp., adding that many Chinese companies also had failed to recognize the benefits of advertising.

While executives of Yili Foods dismissed their foreign competitors' products as too expensive, they appeared to recognize the threat.

"We are also developing some new and high-quality products to meet the market, but this needs a big investment," one said.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	11,200.20	11,256.60	-0.50
Singapore	Straits Times	2,422.67	2,413.59	+0.38
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,289.70	2,260.00	+1.31
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	20,784.23	20,934.62	-0.72
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,064.23	1,058.83	+0.51
Bangkok	SET	1,369.74	1,360.71	+0.66
Seoul	Composite Index	858.18	865.12	-0.80
Taipei	Stock Market Index	4,857.27	4,866.81	-0.20
Manila	PSE	2,905.66	2,854.02	+1.81
Jakarta	Composite Index	584.82	577.48	+1.27
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,092.04	2,084.82	+0.35
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,527.84	3,471.68	+1.62

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Japan Telecom Co.** asked Tokyo for permission to cut domestic long-distance rates 20 percent to 25 percent as of March 19. The move follows a similar cut Jan. 31 by **Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp.**
- **Hong Kong** will consider introducing a new licence for video-on-demand services by July. **Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd.** has announced plans to launch a such a service in July; **Wharf (Holdings) Ltd.**, holder of the colony's pay-TV license, opposes the move.
- **Singapore Telecommunications Pte.** has decided against bidding for a 30 percent stake in **Telecom Eireann** in order to concentrate on its 49.9 percent investment in **Belgacom SA**, a spokesman said.
- **The Financial Times** will publish a daily edition in **Hong Kong** starting March 19. The edition will be printed by a unit of the **Ming Pao** newspaper group.
- **South China Morning Post (Holdings) Ltd.**, a unit of News Corp., will make an offer for all the shares of **TVE (Holdings) Ltd.** Trading in shares of both companies have been suspended in Hong Kong until details of the offer are announced.

Names, names, names . . .

- **John Medica** was named chief operating officer of Dell Computer Corp.'s Japan unit.
- **Shaukat Aziz**, head of commercial banking in Asia for Citibank, has been appointed corporate planning officer for the parent company, Citicorp. He will be replaced in North Asia by **Stephen Long** and in South Asia by **Michael Contreras**.
- **Christopher Langley**, general manager for Hong Kong and China of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp., will join the board of Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., replacing **P.E. Selway-Swift**, who has been reassigned to London.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP, AP, Knight-Ridder

Tax Agency Raids Property Firms in Japan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Tax investigators raided the offices Tuesday of five companies that were heavy borrowers from the housing-loan companies involved in Japan's controversial effort to settle their debts.

The move against major real estate companies that had failed to repay loans totaling billions of yen from the insolvent housing loan companies came three days after the Ministry of Finance submitted to Parliament a bill calling for the use of taxpayers' money to help write off trillions of yen of bad loans held by the mortgage companies.

Analysts said the authorities had carried out the raids to show taxpayers the government was hunting down those responsible for the bad loans.

"It's a campaign, of course. The timing is just too perfect," said Chris Redl, an analyst at ING Baring Securities. Government officials "are in a position now where they must deal with public sentiment more carefully than they have in the past," he said.

An official of the National Tax Agency said the raids in Tokyo and Osaka were aimed at seeing whether the major borrowers had paid all their taxes.

The government has come under fire for its plan, announced in December, to use large amounts of taxpayers' money to help pay the seven mortgage companies' massive debts. Tokyo has earmarked 685 billion yen ($6.41 billion) for the plan in the fiscal year starting in April and plans to pay half of any future losses stemming from disposing of the mortgage companies' assets.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

Chip Firms in Venture

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Toshiba Corp., NEC Corp., Fujitsu Ltd. and seven other leading Japanese microchip makers said Tuesday they had set up a 5 billion yen ($46.8 million) venture to develop new semiconductor technologies.

Hajime Sasaki, NEC's executive vice president and the president of the venture, Advanced Semiconductor Technologies Inc., said the partners would welcome participation by foreign semiconductor makers. *(AFP, Reuters)*

■ Machinery Orders Jump 7%

Corporate spending on equipment continues to boost Japan's economic recovery, according to new government data, Bloomberg Business News reported.

Private machinery orders in December rose a better-than-expected 7.0 percent from November, the Economic Planning Agency said. Orders for all of 1995 rose 6.7 percent, the second annual rise.

Electronics makers led the demand in December, spurred by increased production of personal computers and mobile phones.

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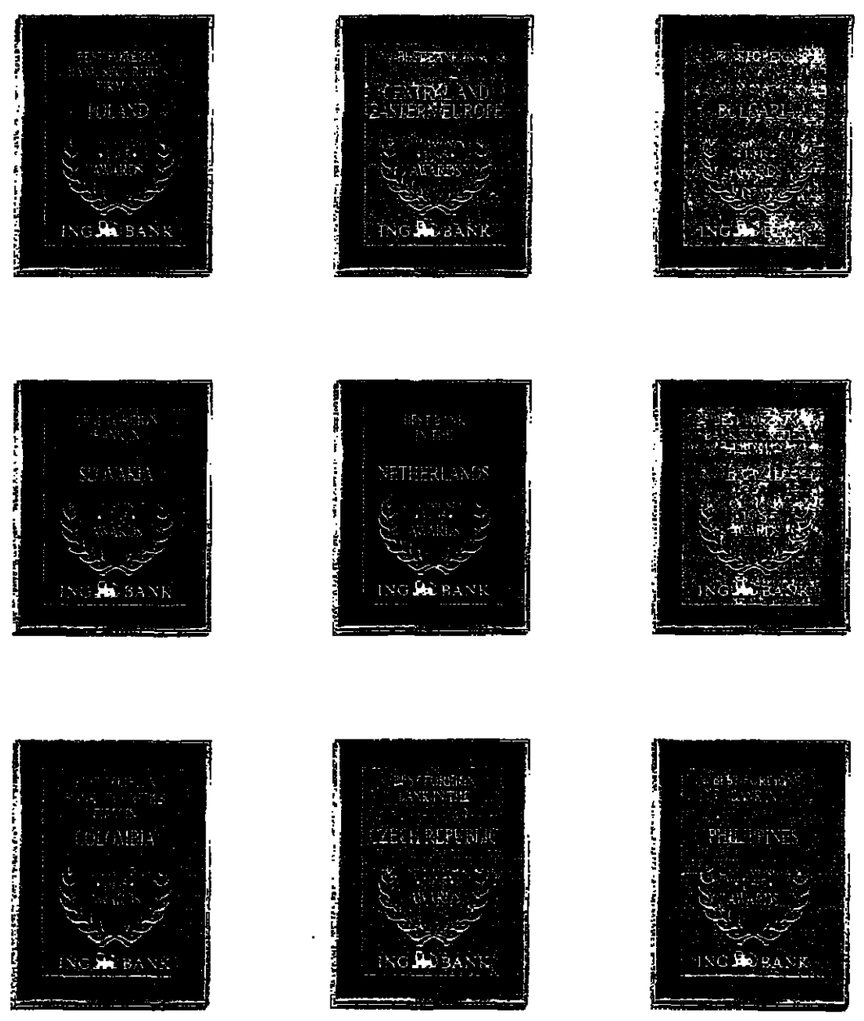

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Herald Tribune

Nigeria's Grim Oil War Puts Shell on Trial in the Court of Public Opinion

By Paul Lewis
New York Times Service

YORLA, Nigeria — When members of the Ogoni people began attacks three years ago on Royal Dutch/Shell's oilfields in Nigeria, the company appealed to the country's military government for protection.

The results, company executives now acknowledge, were utterly disastrous.

To crush the unrest by the Ogonis, who complained of environmental damage to their territories and demanded money for the oil extracted there, Nigeria sent its mobile police and mounted a systematic campaign of repression that included laying waste to whole villages.

Last November, the military government of General Sani Abacha executed the most prominent Ogoni leader, Ken Saro-Wiwa, after he was found guilty of inciting a riot that led to the murder of four pro-government chiefs. His trial was widely condemned as a sham in Europe and the United States.

Now, Royal Dutch/Shell is on trial in the court of public opinion. Critics in Nigeria and abroad accuse the company of colluding in the brutal oppression of local people, of polluting Ogoniland and of failing to speak out against the execution of Mr. Saro-Wiwa.

Several countries, including the United States, are contemplating sanctions against Nigeria. A coalition of human rights and environmental groups is planning a worldwide boycott of Shell's gasoline and other products.

Even London's Royal Geographic Society, not usually the most militant of groups, has dropped the company as a patron and returned a $60,000 donation.

The Saro-Wiwa case has set off a debate reminiscent of the one over economic relations with South Africa before majority rule. Some critics of the Nigerian regime say that by refusing to cooperate with it, companies such as Shell could hasten the return of democracy, or at least avoid complicity with corruption and denial of human rights.

An examination of Shell's actions in Nigeria, assembled from interviews with executives of the company and the government officials as well as dissidents and human rights groups abroad, from separate tours of Ogoniland with officials and dissidents and from a review of official and corporate documents, brings out these broad points:

• Although Mr. Saro-Wiwa has been widely portrayed as a gentle eco-martyr, he was a far more complex figure, an ambitious — Ogoni political rivals say ruthless — leader. His movement focused on ecological protection after calculating that this would have appeal in the West but its main goals were to win the region autonomous power and a share of its oil revenues.

• Nigeria's leaders saw the Ogoni movement as a step toward separatist war, similar to the fierce conflict over the Biafra region in the 1960s. The response was ferocious. One internal Nigerian army memo called for the "wasting" of "leadership cadres, especially vocal individuals."

• Shell gave Nigeria an important pretext for violence when it specifically asked the government to send the mobile police — known locally as the "kill-and-go mob." Shell paid for the transportation and salary bonuses of some troops — ostensibly oilfield guards — who committed the abuses.

• There is evidence of pollution in the region in which Shell has pumped oil, but it is not as dire as portrayed by Shell's critics. A 1995 World Bank study concluded that while the pollution angers local residents, the impact on human health "is not expected to be substantial." The report added "given the low environmental and health impacts, the actual future benefits of reducing oil pollution are low."

• Shell, despite the urging of Western diplomats, refused until the last moment to lend its voice to the international campaign for clemency after Mr. Saro-Wiwa was convicted of murder in a secret trial. But it is far from clear that Shell's influence would have saved him and eight activists hanged with him.

Shell executives fervently deny doing anything more than trying to protect company personnel and equipment and say that they had no control over the actions of the Nigerian security services. They said it was not unusual for corporations seeking protection to pay transportation costs and salary supplements for troops living outside barracks.

"We were not there," said Egbert Imomoh, Shell's top manager in Port Harcourt. "We don't know what happened."

Shell executives said they have begun a major study to assess environmental damage in the region. But company leaders said Shell's image had been dealt a serious blow by the events in Nigeria.

"Saro-Wiwa's execution was a disaster for us," said Alan Detheridge, Shell's West African coordinator.

Nonetheless, the company brushes aside suggestions that it should pull out of Nigeria or at least freeze the $3.8 billion natural gas project it is pursuing there. The World Bank announced soon after the executions of Mr. Saro-Wiwa and the other Ogoni activists that it would not proceed with negotiations to provide money for some of the project.

"All we can pull out are our 270 expatriate staff," said Mark Moody-Stuart, one of four managing directors of Royal Dutch/Shell, in an interview in his London office. "The Nigerians can run the oil industry on their own and buy help on the market," he said, adding that "the French would replace us in a flash."

For nearly four decades, Shell has been pumping oil in Nigeria's delta region. Shell produces roughly half of Nigeria's oil, a commodity that accounts for about 90 percent of the country's foreign exchange and a steady stream of revenue for Nigeria that has often been siphoned off by corrupt officials.

The operations are strategically important to the company, which lacks enough reserves of high-quality crude to meet the requirements of its refineries and gasoline stations.

Shell takes for itself 257,000 barrels of the 900,000 barrels the company pumps daily, giving Nigeria the rest.

Nigeria is also lucrative for Shell. Nick Antill, an analyst with the London securities house of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, puts Shell's Nigerian profits at $170 million to $190 million a year. "That's nearly 10 percent of total exploration and production profits, which is significant," he said.

Little, if any, of these profits trickled down to Ogoniland.

The Ogoni campaign against the company began in 1990 when a group of conservative, traditional leaders formed the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People to win statehood, more money and better environmental protection for the Ogonis.

Garrick B. Leton, an elderly former federal minister, became the first president. Mr. Saro-Wiwa, then 49 and a successful writer and television producer, was appointed spokesman.

The movement persuaded the federal government to establish an Oil and Minerals Producing Areas Development Commission to channel money to these regions, with an initial promise it would get 3 percent of Nigeria's $10 billion annual oil income. This was to be raised later to 13 percent.

But Mr. Saro-Wiwa favored a more confrontational approach to Shell and the federal government. Mr. Leton said in an interview in Port Harcourt. The two fell out in a dispute over tactics tinged with class rivalry and personality differences.

The movement was founded by "rich, traditional leaders with big houses in Port Harcourt," said Botom Mitee, a supporter of Mr. Saro-Wiwa whose brother was also tried for murder but acquitted. But Mr. Saro-Wiwa, although he had grown affluent during his years as a local administrator and trader, "identified with poor Ogoni in the villages," Mr. Mitee said.

Shell ascribes Mr. Saro-Wiwa's success in gradually taking control of the movement and radicalizing it to the poverty of the Ogoni people, as many promises of federal aid never materialized. Most villagers still lack even electricity and piped water. For this, Shell blames the government.

The struggle for control of the Ogoni movement between its traditional leaders and Mr. Saro-Wiwa came to a head in June 1993 over his plan to draw attention to the Ogoni plight by boycotting a Nigerian presidential election that was supposed to mark the country's return to democratic rule.

Mr. Leton and other leaders of the movement opposed the boycott, were outvoted and resigned, allowing Mr. Saro-Wiwa to take over the group's presidency.

His campaign against Shell and the federal government angered Nigeria's military leaders, who said they feared he was stirring up secessionist feeling in the oil-rich east, 20 years after Biafra's unsuccessful breakaway bid.

In late 1992, Shell asked the government to send troops to protect its operations from recurring vandalism. Dismayed by vigilante attacks and the ferocious army crackdown, Shell withdrew from the region altogether in early 1993, asking the authorities to protect the installations left behind.

The violence continued. The next year, according to an internal memo obtained by Nigerian dissidents, the company specifically asked the military government to deploy its mobile police.

What happened during these months of upheaval is a matter of dispute, but many villages were destroyed.

Shell had already abandoned its operations in the region, declaring it was unwilling to work amid civil unrest and military oppression. Mr. Detheridge, Shell's West African coordinator, said the company would not return "until we have the local community on our side."

On May 21, 1994, Nigerian security forces detained Mr. Saro-Wiwa while he was campaigning for election to a constitutional conference and charged him with inciting his followers to murder four opponents. His supporters say the killing was done by government agents to incriminate the Ogoni leader.

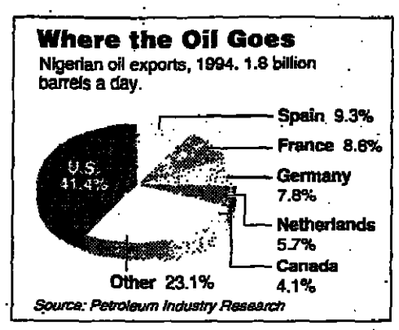
What few outside the Nigerian government disagree about is that the trial was a travesty and the death sentence more a reflection of Nigeria's harsh politics than any judicial process.

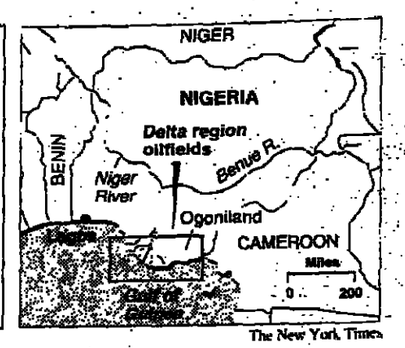
Mr. Saro-Wiwa was hanged on Nov. 10. Nineteen more Ogonis are awaiting trial for the same killings.

Critics of Shell contend the company has considerable influence over the Nigerian government and could have done much more to prevent the execution. The company disputes both assertions.

Shell is now setting up a commission to assess the delta's environmental needs at a cost of $4.5 million. But the project is off to a shaky start.

Ogoni activists like to describe how, after four decades of oil pumping, their 400-square-mile (1,036-square-kilometer) ancestral land is host to 96 oil wells and 5 big pumping stations where vast quantities of natural gas are burned 24 hours a day, dirtying the air. They complain of leaky oil pipes crisscrossing their land and hindering farming. They complain, too, that oil spills destroy crops and pollute the creeks where they fish.





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CD-ROM: *Multimedia Offerings Largely Fail to Cast a Spell*

Continued from Page 11

draws of the show. Using Apple Computer's digital cameras, Mr. Mazot, 28, a former student of international finance, recreated many of the city's traditional sightseeing locales and quite a few out-of-the-ordinary sites and sights.

The effect is like taking a stroll through the tourist-trod precincts of the Place de la Concorde as well as the 13th arrondissement and other less visited spots.

The CD-ROM is currently available in French and will soon be out in English for 349 francs; Internet surfers can sample it at http://www.VirtualTourism.com.

Judging from a growing number of discs, there is a technological boomlet under way in Russia, where former space scientists and defense specialists are churning out titles on such likely subjects as astronomy and less likely ones such as grammar and truck-driving simulation games for hyperactive boys.

In addition, just about everything imaginable on the Impressionist artist Paul Cezanne is revealed in a title created by French National Museums and Corbis Corp., a partner of Microsoft Corp., that remembers each painting viewed by a limitless series of viewers and reminds you of what you have not yet seen.

As straightforwardly sentimental as a Hallmark greeting card is Picture Mail by Domus, which allows subscribers to send 12 digitally scanned photos, each accompanied by a 15-second sound message, via e-mail. Using sophisticated decompression techniques, Picture Mail can be received by anyone with electronic mail; only the sender needs the software, microphone and scanner.

Domus plans to export its technology, already available in Japan through the Nifty on-line service, to Europe and America via other on-line services, charging half the cost of a postage stamp wherever the message originates.

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Valentine's Day Messages

To the commander of my heart
To say I will love you forever
is truth
To proclaim I will love you always
is fact
To want to be with you everyday
is a religion

TO ETHAN: You're the Kremlin in my coffee, the Seine in my soup du jour, from Pall Mall to Baile, we've had a ball.... (You've said life should not be a bore) - Our life has cost so many patterns, cross Depont circle to get to Red Square - But the shape I like best is your heart, I confess... My Valentine Extraordinaire!

TO MY OLD ISRAELI FRIEND DONHAUL
ARI, you never did have the luck of the Irish. Judith
P.S. Sweet dreams pussycat

SUOU
ADORE
I LOVE YOU
GBB
XOXO

DEAR DONALD: YOU ARE MY JOY, my warmth, my petals. You are my Saturday mornings. You are my sun, my moon, my stars. You are my love. Happy Valentine's Day 1996, the second of many to come. Love, Rob.

For BILY
My lover - My best friend
For the best ten years of my life
Thanks. Your ever lovin' chumley - Greg

MONIQUE - You are the only one in my heart and mind. You fill-up my senses. Welcome to our family as soon as possible. We all started the countdown. With all our love. Ray.

THREE WORDS, DEAR JULIET
goodnight indeed. If that thy best of love be honourable, thy purpose marriage, send me word tomorrow. Always be true. Spencer.

TO OUR PARIS PALS across the Atlantique - It's Valentine's Day - C'est tres romantique - We've sent some Swiss chocolates over your way - Can it compare to a "roll in the hoyt".

D'UNE ETREINTE est née une passion. Envirée par ton parfum, troublée par tes baisers, entraînée dans les abîmes du plaisir, je t'aime et te désire. Ta fiancée.

TO MY HOOTIE KI BABEALONIA
toad the wet sprocket chick, I San Tonee moped moments love you be mine Doreen Tuz Stockholm for boy.

I MAKE THEE A WISH
OH LOVE OF MY LIFE
FOR A LOVE SO BRIGHT
AS THOSE STARS TONIGHT

DEAR MR. ZOUQ, some say you're a super genius, I think you're a super valentine. I can't wait to cash in on my chocolate "kiss options". Un petit essaie

GENEVIEVE: Stop to say Happy Valentine's yesterday as today. All my love tomorrow too. A-S-M.

ASM - You were, are and always will be the sunshine of my life - I am yours forever - Your one and only wife.

TO MY BEAUTIFUL P.P. May you have a very happy, successful & healthy year. This wishes you your Kouchalu.

S.M.L.E.: Incidentally, all thoughts provide perceptions - memory creation conclusions. Love A.M.G.

TO MY HUSBAND INGO. Happy Valentine's Day darling and cheers to our first anniversary. All my love, Marian.

DARLING ANGEL BOY IN NYC, You are still and always my favorite thing. Heaps of kisses XO Honeybunny.

WE HAVE FLOWN WHERE FEW DARE soaring as high, still much in LOVE, complete and together. P&P

CHERE ANNE CORDET - Diamonds, pearls, sun, moon and a star all pale in comparison to you. I love AI-JOREI

AFTER 22 YEARS
it just keeps getting better!
I love you VICKI - JIM.

TO MY DARLING MISTER-STABLE
I miss you and love you lots.
Full moon.

BRUCE MAY I ALWAYS REMEMBER
OXFORD 1966
LOVE RUTH.

CELINE HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY from your "grey hairs" Oh, and Dicky sends his love also!

DESI, DARLING I Love you dearly. I am looking forward to spending a wonderful weekend with you. Mark

LOVE IS BACK ! The little ones only borrowed it - so they could get started too-!

Valentine's Thoughts

Her hair is blond, her eyes are blue,
Her skin is soft, her love is true.

She is my friend, she is my lover,
She is my wife, and my children's mother.

The joy she gives me, I must confide,
Is a most precious thing which I cannot hide.

These feelings fill me 'til I overflow,
With love for her which will always grow.

Sherry, my darling, if you do not mind,
I'll tell the world, "You're my Valentine" !

Love forever, Ronn

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Adam Butler/AP

Dani after scoring the winner for his new team, West Ham.

A Great Beginning

SOCCER The Portuguese international Dani scored within five minutes of making his first full appearance for West Ham to earn the team a 1-0 Premier League victory over Tottenham. His close-range header was set up by West Ham's other new player, the Croatian center-back Slaven Bilic.

West Ham's victory was its first away since it beat the last-place Bolton on Nov.18. *(Reuters)*

No Boycott by China

OLYMPICS A Chinese spokesman said Tuesday that the country plans to take part in the Atlanta Olympics, despite reports that it was considering a boycott over the attendance of Taiwanese leaders.

"So far I have seen no circumstances that would lead to China's abstention from this grand sporting event," the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Shen Guofang, said.

Wu Shaozu, head of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, reportedly hinted last week that China would stay away from the Olympics if Taiwanese leaders showed up. *(AP)*

Moon Goes on Trial

FOOTBALL The trial of Warren Moon for an alleged assault on his wife, Felicia, began Tuesday in Richmond, Texas. The misdemeanor domestic violence case has taken several turns since Moon's 7-year-old son, Jeffrey, placed a 911 call to police on July 18. It has become a test of wills between the Moons and prosecutors who have threatened to put his wife and son on the witness stand. *(AP)*

Vote on Sale of Pirates

BASEBALL Major league owners were expected to end the Pittsburgh Pirates' 18-month search for a new buyer when they voted Tuesday on Kevin McClatchey's $90 million buyout. Ten of the 14 National League owners and eight of the 14 American League owners must ratify the sale. *(AP)*

Charlie Conerly Dies

Charlie Conerly, 74, former New York Giants all-pro quarterback and the tailback credited for the early football success at the University of Mississippi, died Tuesday in Memphis. He had been in a hospital since heart surgery in Oct. 15. *(AP)*

Diether Endlicher/The Associated Press

Atle Skaardal of Norway powering his way to the gold medal at the World Alpine Ski Championhips.

A Present for Skaardal: World Alpine Super-G

The Associated Press

SIERRA NEVADA, Spain — The veteran Norwegian skier Atle Skaardal won the gold medal gold Tuesday in the men's super-giant slalom at the World Alpine Skiing Championships.

Skaardal, who has seven career victories in the World Cup including one this year in super-G, was perfect near the upper part of the course, where technique was needed, and finished in a time of 1 minute 21.80 seconds.

The silver medal went to Patrik Jaerbyn of Sweden in 1:22.09 and the bronze to Kjetil Aamodt of Norway in 1:22.11. Aamodt is the defending world champion in slalom and giant slalom.

The victory came just a few days short of Skaardal's 30th birthday on Saturday, the day of the men's downhill in which he will also race. It was his first gold medal in his eighth appearance in a world championships or Olympics dating back to 1985.

Skaardal missed the '92 Olympics with injuries suffered in a crash in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, and he has struggled to get back to top form. His best finish was a silver medal in downhill in the 1993 world championships.

"I was very insecure when I took a look at the course this morning," Skaardal said. "I wasn't sure how to navigate it. But I had a super feeling in the start house and went down without a mistake.

"I'm very happy, it's a great feeling. I'm going go have a three-course meal tonight with soup, spaghetti and lots of ice cream."

Jaerbyn and Aamodt were just as pleased.

"I wasn't sure last night with new snow we had, but I think it was an advantage to start in front," Jaerbyn said. The Swedish skier — who has never won a World Cup event — was the first racer to start in a field of more than 90.

Aamodt has been shut out on the World Cup circuit this season, but has 11 career World Cup victories — four in super-giant slalom. In addition to two world championships, he also has an Olympic silver in downhill.

The 2,425-meter (7,955-foot) course was fast and in excellent condition, with bright sun breaking through just an hour before the race as a dense fog lifted and a light snowfall stopped.

The defending champion, Stefan Eberharter of Austria, who won the title in 1991, was more than two seconds off the winner's pace.

The championships take a break on Wednesday and Thursday before resuming on Friday with the women's combined downhill.

U.S. Swimmer Handed 2-Year Ban for Steroids

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida — American swimming's governing body rejected an emotional plea from Jessica Foschi on Tuesday and banned her from competition for two years for steroid use.

By its ruling, U.S. Swimming brushed aside suggestions that it snub international rules that require suspension after a positive drug test. But the board reserved the right to modify those rules and apply different sanctions in the future.

The order by U.S. Swimming's board of directors, after a two-day hearing, overturned a decision by a three-member review panel that placed the 15-year-old New York swimmer on probation for two years and allowed her to continue to compete.

Foschi was 14 last August when she tested positive for the steroid mesterolone after a national event in Pasadena, California. She tearfully denied taking the drug in a 12-minute appearance Monday before the 14 board members.

The Foschi family has said it would appeal a suspension through procedures of the U.S. Olympic Committee and the American Arbitration Association. The Foschis have also filed a lawsuit against U.S. Swimming and the USOC.

Richard Young, a U.S. Swimming attorney, said the board had, in effect, decided not to totally accept the anti-doping rules set by FINA, swimming's international governing body.

U.S. Swimming's leadership interprets FINA's rule to mean that a positive steroid test means a mandatory two-year suspension for the athlete. But in its decision Tuesday, the board said the FINA rule meant that "a positive urine test for an anabolic steroid creates a presumption of doping."

"The athlete has the right to present evidence to rebut this presumption, and the board may modify the sanctions provided," it said. A majority of the board found, however, that the evidence presented by the Foschis did not rebut the presumption of doping.

Foschi, a freestyle swimmer who aspires to represent the United States in the Olympics, was suspended retroactive to Aug. 4, when she tested positive.

On Monday, Foschi sobbed when she testified she was "bewildered and shocked" by the drug test that threatened her Olympic hopes.

"I've never taken anything — nothing remotely close to a steroid," she said. "I would never cheat."

Jessica and her parents contend that her food or drink was tampered with or that the urine testing was improperly performed or incorrectly handled.

■ Australian Asks for Leniency

In Brisbane, Samantha Riley, the world champion in the 100- and 200-meter breaststroke, said Tuesday that she had accidentally taken a banned drug and asked for leniency from swimming's international governing body.

The 22-year-old Australian tested positive for the substance dextropropoxyphene after being tested at the world short course championships in Rio de Janeiro in December.

FINA is considering what penalty to impose on Riley, who could face a two-year ban that would rule her out of this summer's Atlanta Olympics.

Riley said at a news conference that the drug was contained in headache medication she took in Rio, where she won three gold medals and set two world short course records.

"I am absolutely devastated," Riley said. "I support FINA 100 percent in their fight against drugs, and I realize it is getting harder to catch the cheats — but I am not a cheat."

Boxer Confirms He Tested Positive for HIV

Former WBO Champ Morrison Was Banned Hours Before Fight in Nevada

By Gerald Eskenazi
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Tommy Morrison, the former heavyweight champion of the World Boxing Organization who was suspended from boxing last week after a test indicated he had HIV, has acknowledged that he has tested positive for the virus that causes AIDS.

His promoter, Tony Holden, said Monday that Morrison had learned about the test result Friday night in Las Vegas, where he was to have fought Arthur Weathers on Saturday. Holden said Morrison had also undergone a blood test with his own doctor.

A specialist in infectious diseases, Dr. Jonathan Zenilman of the Johns Hopkins University medical school, said the accuracy rate on a positive HIV result is greater than 99 percent.

"There is no data on transmission in a sports setting," Zenilman said. When asked about the different levels of danger in competing in boxing and, say, basketball, he said: "Boxing creates the greatest problem because there's so much blood splashing about. The major issue is transmission from blood to torn mucous membrane, which are in the eyes and nose. I don't think there is anywhere near the potential problem in basketball."

Morrison is the third world-class athlete in recent years to concede publicly that he had the virus, following Magic Johnson of the Los Angeles Lakers and the former Olympic diving champion Greg Louganis. He is only the second fighter of the 1,500 that Nevada has examined to test positive for the virus.

Morrison's disclosure was virtually forced upon him after the Nevada Athletic Commission barred him from his scheduled Saturday night fight only hours before he was to enter the ring. Morrison had taken the test for HIV two days earlier.

The test is mandatory in Britain, but Nevada is the only major boxing state in the United States that requires the test.

The New Jersey commissioner of athletics, Larry Hazzard, said that his state's confidentiality laws forbid his office from testing boxers for the virus, but that some years ago it had started requiring referees and cornermen to wear rubber gloves.

"Now we're going to have to revisit that issue," he said.

New York and California, the major boxing venues after Nevada and New Jersey, also have no mandatory testing of boxers.

Calls to the office of Floyd Patterson, New York state's new athletic commissioner, were not returned. But the former commissioner, Randy Gordon, said he had tried several times to introduce legislation to make prefight HIV testing mandatory in the state and was turned down.

The Nevada commission's executive director, Marc Ratner, said he had made HIV testing mandatory in 1988 — "because it's a blood sport more than any other sport."

Morrison last fought Oct. 7, when he was beaten soundly by Lennox Lewis, a former World Boxing Council champion. The fight was stopped in the sixth round after Lewis had bloodied Morrison's eyes and knocked him down four times.

Lewis said Monday from Jamaica, where he was on vacation, that he did not intend to take a blood test immediately. As a British fighter, he must take an annual test, and the next one is scheduled in London next month.

A member of his promotional team, Mike Boorman, said: "He told his manager, Frank Maloney, that he's not concerned."

There was no suggestion of how Morrison might have acquired the virus.

The Nevada commission said Monday that Morrison had balked when asked to take the mandatory blood test. It said he told commission officials that as a Seventh Day Adventist he was not permitted to give blood.

The commission told him that he would not be permitted to fight until he took the test.

In a statement read in Tulsa, Oklahoma, by his promoter, Morrison, 27, said: "I understand that there are several people concerned about me. I am fine. I feel it would be selfish to ask you to say a prayer for me."

Capriati's Comeback Is Postponed

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Jennifer Capriati had to postpone her long-awaited comeback to tennis when she withdrew from the Paris women's tennis open on Tuesday, because of injury.

Capriati, 19, has not played competitive tennis since November 1994. She had been given a wild card to take part in the Paris tournament in which she was to meet Sabine Appelmans of Belgium in the first round.

But organizers said she strained a muscle in training on Tuesday morning and withdrew after a medical examination.

Capriati turned professional at the age of 14 in a blaze of publicity. She made the top 10 at the age of 16, but was arrested for shoplifting in December 1993. Her first bid to relaunch her career, in Philadelphia in November 1994, failed when she was beaten by Anke Huber of Germany in the first round. She underwent psychiatric treatment and took a rehabilitation course when she was detained for shoplifting and arrested on a drugs charge shortly after quitting the game.

"This is very unfortunate," the 19-year-old Olympic champion said Tuesday. "I couldn't wait to get back and start playing again and I've had such a warm welcome here."

"I'll take it one step at a time and see how it goes," she said. "I just want to enjoy it and be happy." *(Reuters, AFP)*

■ Agassi on the Ranking Game

Andre Agassi ripped Ryan Walters on the court at the Sybase Open in San Jose on Monday, then off the court rapped Thomas Muster's new No. 1 ranking, Reuters reported.

Agassi defeated Walters, an 18-year-old Stanford University freshman who is the top U.S. collegiate player, 6-2 6-2, in less than an hour.

"I've never hit with anyone who hit that hard before," Walters said. "He proved to me that I'm not anywhere near that level yet."

Agassi made it clear he doesn't think Muster is at the top level, either. On the day when the Austrian supplanted him at the top of the rankings according to the ATP computer, Agassi said he did not believe that Muster, who won 11 of his 12 titles on clay in 1995, will hold the spot very long.

"I'll tell you what, if he's number one at the end of the year, I'll allow him to sit in the Royal Box at Wimbledon and bow to me," Agassi said. "I'd be shocked."

Agassi added that because Muster spends most of his year on clay and avoids surfaces such as grass, it doesn't look good for the sport.

"It's an elite group of guys," Agassi said. "You want to feel like the number one player has proved himself in a lot of different situations."

Paul Sakuma/The Associated Press

Andre Agassi dancing away from a hard return from Ryan Walters.

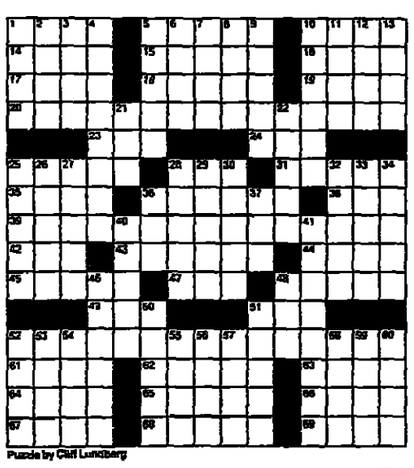
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Practical joke
5 Malice
10 Opera house box
14 Kind of history
15 Southwest home
16 During
17 Cluckers
18 More than angry
19 Rankle
20 What the N.B.A.'s Thurmond did in Lhasa, palindromically?
23 Gum unit
24 England's F.B.I.
25 Bank statement entry
28 Pen name
31 Wackos
35 Big birds
36 Threaten
38 Logical prefix
39 Like Napoleon, palindromically?
42 Itinerary section
43 Idolized
44 Spring
46 Rendezvous
47 Di-Gel target
48 80's top-rated TV star
49 Winter woe, in Wittenberg
51 Ages and ages
52 Wallop Nebraska tycoons, palindromically?
61 Soup ingredient
62 Buzzer
63 Land east of the Urals
64 Succulent plant
65 Spread out
66 Seven-foot, e.g.
67 McCartney's instrument
68 Scornful cries
69 Small amphibians

DOWN

1 One of 21 popes
2 Zone
3 Puff
4 Differently
5 Legal
6 Revise
7 Bygone Chevy
8 Notice of departure
9 Front-line physician
10 Texas city on the Rio Grande
11 Elide
12 Arizona river
13 Sir Anthony
21 Be up
22 Cycle enthusiast
25 Distributed
26 Fire remnant
27 Not flat
28 Obscure
29 Prefix with red
30 Sidewalk umbrella sites
32 Eyes
33 Shish —
34 Needing a rinse
36 60's fashion plate
37 Oil source
40 2'1, e.g.
41 Stretch
46 Transitions
48 Lover's sound
50 Big hit
51 September TV special, with "the"
52 Pierce
53 Gwen Verdon role
54 Subjects of 58-Down investigations
55 Rival rival
56 Light ring
57 Smell –
58 Fliers and grandpa
59 Sing with grace
60 Mineo and others



Puzzle by Cliff Lunsberg

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

Solution to Puzzle of Feb. 13

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A	W	O	L		A	I	S	L	E		H	E	R	O
L	I	K	E		N	O	T	O	N		A	S	I	A
F	L	Y	I	N	G	T	I	G	E	R		E	A	T
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S	E	E	M			S	E	N	S	E		A	N	N	E

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SPORTS

Solidarity, For Once, In Cricket

The Associated Press

COLOMBO — India and Pakistan fielded a joint team for a cricket match in Colombo on Tuesday in the hope of proving a point: It is safe to play here despite the bombing last month that killed 83 people.

The match against Sri Lanka was hastily arranged after Australia and the West Indies — worried about safety — refused to play their scheduled matches in Colombo for the World Cup, the premier limited-overs tournament of the game.

"We wanted to prove to the world and cricket-playing countries that it is safe to be here as far as sports is concerned," said India's captain, Mohammad Azharuddin, who led the joint team of five Indians and six Pakistanis in the unofficial match.

The two nations are among the world's biggest rivals. Their sports matches, especially cricket, take on a warlike quality, and this is the first time the two have joined to play a match against another national team.

"It is history being made here," said Intikhab Alam, the manager of the Pakistani team.

The 1996 World Cup is being jointly hosted by India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka where 37 matches are scheduled before the final in Karachi, Pakistan. The first match, between England and New Zealand, is scheduled for Wednesday in Ahmedabad, India.

Australia and the West Indies forfeited their Feb. 17 and Feb. 25 matches in Colombo. By default, Sri Lanka is now in the quarterfinals.

Russell Boyer/Reuters

Jack Russell, England's wicket keeper, preparing for the first World Cup match.

Wyoming Stuns Utah, 80-76

The Associated Press

Utah, the top free-throw shooting college team, found no favor at the charity stripe against Wyoming.

Visiting Utah was 4-of-6 at the free-throw line in the final seven minutes, while Wyoming hit 10 of 12 free throws to cement an 80-76 upset of the No. 7 Utes on Monday night.

"We had a total team effort tonight," said Coach Joby Wright. "We hit so many big shots and big free throws down the stretch."

Utah's coach, Rick Majerus, had a different take. "It came down to us missing free throws," he said, adding that an H. L. Coleman layup with 50 seconds left was the Cowboys' clutch shot.

Jeron Roberts hit two free throws with 28 seconds left.

Coleman scored 18 points, including the game winner, to pace the Cowboys (12-11, 6-7 Western Athletic Conference). Utah (19-4, 11-2 WAC) was led by Keith Van Horn with 24.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 4 Villanova 90, La Salle 50 In Philadelphia, Kerry Kittles scored 25 points and Villanova routed its crosstown rival La Salle in the worst loss ever for the Explorers.

Jason Lawson and Eric Eberz each had 11 points for the Wildcats, winners of eight straight. Romaine Haywood had 14 for La Salle, which has lost eight of nine. The worst previous loss by the Explorers was a 113-77 defeat by Notre Dame in 1977.

No. 16 Syracuse 63, Rutgers 54 In Piscataway, New Jersey, John Wallace scored 18 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in Syracuse's uninspired victory.

The Orangemen (19-6, 9-5 Big East) certainly didn't look like the team that beat Georgetown, then ranked eighth, by 21 points two days earlier. Rutgers (6-15, 3-10) was somehow within 39-36 with 9:53 to play, but as it has so many times in its first season in the Big East, it allowed the big run to come.

Out of Colombia, the Liberator

International Herald Tribune

LONDON — In the sport of our dreams, we gladly pay to be in the stadium when a man transforms a game in a flash of skills most of us could never aspire to.

Faustino Asprilla, the Colombian unwanted in Italy, needed just seven minutes of his debut in England last Saturday to prove himself such a man. He came onto the field as a substitute, turned opponents inside out, turned a losing side into a winning one.

By conjuring a goal out of nothing — the art, Pelé always said, of the Beautiful Game — Asprilla liberated Newcastle United to come from a goal down to beat Middlesbrough on Middlesbrough's turf.

He had not been properly introduced to the men who passed him the ball. He speaks barely a word of their language. And the reputation that preceded him was that of a performer incomparably good or incorrigibly bad.

How should he persuade them? Asprilla summoned inspiration. He made a darting run to the left to accept the ball; Stephen Vickers, a yeoman defender, followed at his heels.

The Colombian turned to face the Englishman. He swayed to the left, his tall, loose limbs attracting Vickers's attention. When the defender's foot came down, the ball and the opponent were gone.

Not far — an abrupt shift to the right. Vickers followed that move, and again was lost down an avenue of Asprilla's imagination.

This time the Colombian used an instep to drag the ball surreptitiously beneath his own body. Left, right, left again. Vickers was flummoxed and unbalanced, and left like an abandoned anchor in the mud.

Having created the space, Asprilla delivered a wonderfully timed pass so that Steve Watson had virtually a free header into the Middlesbrough net.

It wasn't over. Asprilla was just warming up. Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough coach, shouted at his defender for "not getting tight enough" to his opponent. But the next man-to-man confrontation involving Asprilla was as tight as could be.

Chris Morris, a seasoned Irish fullback, stood so close he might have been an overcoat protecting Asprilla from the cold north wind. Asprilla leaned into him, then, with the sole of the boot, tricked him by flicking the ball backward between Morris's legs.

The bewilderment of those two defenders — who had almost 1,000 professional games between them — was the joy of spectators.

Every seat in Middlesbrough's house was full. Mostly the 30,011 witnesses came to roar on Juninho, the Brazilian import to their own team. But as the

SOCCER / ROB HUGHES

mantra "Tino! Tino!" filled that docklands stadium, I swear it was chorused by more than just the 1,200 Newcastle fans.

You may now be convinced I am dreaming. Sportsmanship in the modern era, in England toward a foreigner?

Well, yes. Strange things are happening to England now that overseas players are afoot. Asprilla, Juninho, David Ginola (who also plays for Newcastle) are breaking down prejudices that made the English boast that their footballers were better, fitter, faster.

Asprilla had landed on British soil that morning and was ready only for a cameo part because his relationships with Parma in Italy disintegrated to the point where he seldom trained.

Yet his twisting and turning, defenders trying to grapple with him, resembled fishermen hoping to land an octopus in a drift net. Asprilla's arms and legs flop discordantly, indeed like the *Pulpa*, Octopus, his pet name when he was a street player in Tulua Valle, Colombia.

He was then 8, is now 26, and most of what he knows springs from street wiles. Asprilla bewitched Parma at first but fell out too often with Coach Nevio Scala, who concedes: "Tino can win a game for you on his own, or exasperate you by ignoring instructions. I only wish I could control him."

Despite the fact that Parma is preparing to dismiss Scala from his $900,000-per-year job this summer — apparently to hire the Milan trainer Fabio Capello — the club was so desperate to get rid of Asprilla that it threatened to sue Newcastle when the deal almost foundered.

Newcastle had used a scanner to detect a shadow on Asprilla's knee, a hint of arthritis from an operation five years ago. It wanted to wrangle over the $10.1 million fee.

Finally, it paid up in full. Asprilla became the player Kevin Keegan, Newcastle's manager, felt he must have. Keegan, in his playing prime, conquered foreign fields through extreme effort and energy. Like Asprilla, he has a compulsive nature. When the mind is set, he follows through, even when his board fears the consequences.

The Asprilla gamble comes as Newcastle is, for the first time in 70 years, clear leader of England's league. The club was once the dream machine of Keegan's own grandfather, a coal pit worker.

We wondered aloud if Asprilla would raise or contaminate Newcastle's teamwork. There was a precedent — in 1972 when Manchester City led the league, bought Rodney Marsh, a maverick player, and was overtaken by three clubs.

Keegan, no mug when it comes to assessing potential, relishes taming players and is motivated by trying to pour his own commitment into wayward spirits.

But medical examinations cannot run a stethoscope over a player's brain, and the escapades of Asprilla off the playing field are legion. There are the cars he has written off, the affair with a porn actress, the broken marriage, the gashed leg allegedly after putting his foot through a windscreen of a bus, and the suspended prison term for firing a handgun during New Year revelries.

"They pick on me because I'm rich and famous," he explained. "All I want is to prove myself to Keegan so my son comes to stay with his papa and be proud to watch him score."

It has been a while since tranquillity settled on the Octopus. Form has been erratic, games have been few, but Keegan says press reports of his past are offensive.

Keegan knows the history, knows the talent, but fancies the challenge. I hope Keegan can manage his man because I like the coach, like his style and find it refreshing to hear Keegan say:

"Asprilla is ideal for this club. He has a free spirit, and we allow players to express themselves on and off the field here."

Rob Hughes is on the staff of the Times of London.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA SCORING LEADERS

Through Feb. 9:

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Jordan, Chi.	47	530	330	1447	30.8
Malone, Utah	48	488	322	1290	26.9
Olajuwon, Hou.	49	500	266	1269	25.9
Robinson, S.A.	45	400	334	1135	25.2
Mourning, Mia.	36	298	290	894	24.8
C. Robinson, Port.	44	350	208	1042	23.7
Barkley, Phoe.	39	321	250	923	23.7
Caballos, LAL	45	395	242	1053	23.4
Hardaway, Ort.	48	376	310	1122	23.4
Richmond, Sac.	44	342	229	1022	23.2

TOP 25 COLLEGE RESULTS

How the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll fared Monday: 4, Villanova (21-3) beat La Salle 90-50. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Wednesday; 7, Utah (19-4) lost to Wyoming 80-76. Next: vs. Hawaii, Thursday; 14, Syracuse (19-5) beat Rutgers 63-54. Next: at Seton Hall, Tuesday, Feb. 20.

MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Buffalo 78, Chicago St. 68
Jackson St. 85, Southern U. 84
Marshall 111, Jacksonville St. 90
Murray St. 85, E. Kentucky 62
N.C.-Asheville 65, N.C.-Greensboro 56
South Alabama 60, Lamar 58
Southern Miss. 67, Ala.-Birmingham 64
Texas-San Antonio 88, Sam Houston St. 77
Tulsa 74, Evansville 53
W. Carolina 81, Tn.-Chattanooga 76
Wis.-Green Bay 46, Detroit 44
Wright St. 67, Butler 61

THE AP TOP 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 11, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. UMass (39)	23-0	1,619	1
2. Kentucky (5)	20-1	1,563	2
3. Connecticut (1)	22-1	1,496	4
4. Villanova	20-3	1,383	6
5. Kansas	19-2	1,335	3
6. Cincinnati	18-2	1,283	5
7. Utah	19-3	1,246	7
8. Wake Forest	16-3	1,147	9
9. Penn St.	18-2	1,065	10
10. Virginia Tech	18-2	1,025	11
11. Purdue	19-4	900	14
12. Texas Tech	20-1	871	13
13. Arizona	18-4	847	16
14. Georgetown	19-5	778	8
15. Memphis	17-4	742	15
16. Syracuse	18-6	643	18
17. North Carolina	16-7	477	12
18. UCLA	16-6	455	17
19. Iowa	17-6	407	19
20. Stanford	15-5	341	25
21. Boston College	15-5	309	22
22. Iowa St.	17-5	303	21
23. E. Michigan	18-2	203	24
24. Louisville	17-7	152	20
25. Mississippi St.	16-5	118	—

Others receiving votes: Wis.-Green Bay 103, Georgia Tech 62, George Washington 49, Michigan 38, Arkansas 35, Auburn 26, Marquette 21, New Mexico 18, Texas 14, Coll. of Charleston 13, Washington 12, California 8, Missouri 5, Michigan St. 3, Providence 3, Tulane 3, Clemson 2, Indiana 2, Bradley 1.

HOCKEY

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	33	13	10	76	205	155
Florida	33	15	7	73	189	149
Philadelphia	27	16	11	65	189	143
Washington	26	21	7	59	155	143
New Jersey	24	23	7	55	139	131
Tampa Bay	22	23	8	52	169	178
N.Y. Islanders	15	31	8	38	157	209

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Pittsburgh	33	18	4	70	252	184
Montreal	28	22	6	62	178	169
Hartford	23	23	6	52	157	171
Boston	22	23	4	51	183	191
Buffalo	22	28	4	48	156	173
Ottawa	11	42	2	24	128	215

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	38	10	4	80	192	113
Chicago	30	16	11	71	198	152
Toronto	24	22	10	58	167	165
St. Louis	22	23	10	54	149	159
Winnipeg	23	26	4	50	167	193
Dallas	15	29	11	41	153	194

PACIFIC DIVISION

Colorado	30	16	10	70	219	156
Vancouver	20	21	14	54	199	186
Calgary	20	25	11	51	161	171
Los Angeles	18	26	12	48	185	201
Edmonton	19	28	6	44	142	197
Anaheim	19	31	5	43	153	183
San Jose	13	37	5	31	172	241

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Ottawa	3	1	0—4
N.Y. Islanders	0	0	1—1

First Period: O-Chorske 6, (sh). 2, O-Demitra 7 (McCleary). 3, O-Archibald 2 (Demitra). Second Period: O-Chorske 7,. Third Period: New York, Palffy 22 (Andersson, Severyn). Shots on goal: O- 11-8-5—24. New York 6-13-11—30. Goalies: O-Rhodes. New York, Richaud, Soderstrom.

San Jose	0	0	0—0
Montreal	0	0	2—3

First Period—None. Second Period—None. Third Period: M-Turgeon 26 (Rucinsky, Recchi) (pp). 2, M-Rucinsky 20 (Damphousse, Bure) (en). 3, M-Turgeon 27 (en). Shots on goal: S.J.- 10-3-8—21. M- 7-9-11—27. Goalies: S.J.-Terreri. M-Thibeault.

Pittsburgh	0	1	0—1
Toronto	0	3	1—4

First Period—None. Second Period: T-Gilmour 19 (Murphy) (pp). 2, P-Mironov 3 (Nedved, Francis) (pp). 3, T-, Andreychuk 16, (pp). 4, T-Muller 6 (Andreychuk, Sundin) (pp). Third Period: T-Sundin 24 (Gagner) (sh). Shots on goal: P- 6-11-22—39. T- 10-13-9—32. Goalies: P-Wregget. T-Potvin.

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Tottenham 0, West Ham 1

STANDINGS: Newcastle 60 points, Manchester United 51, Liverpool 49, Aston Villa 45, Tottenham 42, Blackburn 41, Arsenal 41, Everton 40, Nottingham Forest 40, Chelsea 39, Leeds 35, Middlesbrough 33, West Ham 32, Sheffield Wednesday 29, Southampton 25, Wimbledon 24, Coventry 24, Manchester City 24, Queens Park Rangers 18, Bolton 13.

ENGLISH F.A. CUP

FOURTH ROUND

Swindon 1, Oldham 0

SCOTTISH CUP

THIRD ROUND

Dunfermline 3, St Mirren 0

THIRD ROUND REPLAY

East Fife 1, Caledonian Thistle 1, tie (Caledonian Thistle win 3-1 on penalties).

KING'S CUP

Thailand 1, Denmark 3
Finland 1, Romania 1

SKIING

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Leading results Tuesday of the men's super-G in the World Alpine Championships on the Pala Granados course (7,856 feet with a vertical drop of 2,100 feet) in Sierra Nevada, Spain: 1, Atle Skaardal, Norway, 1 minute, 21.80 seconds; 2, Patrik Joerbyn, Sweden, 1:22.09; 3, Kjetil Andre Aamodt, Norway, 1:22.11; 4, Jonne Leskinen, Finland, 1:22.37; 5, Patrick Wirth, Austria, 1:22.48; 6, Lasse Kjus, Norway, 1:22.57; 7, Guenther Mader, Austria, 1:22.59; 8, Alessandro Fattori, Italy, 1:22.68; 9, Luc Alphand, France, 1:22.63; (tie) Hans Knaus, Austria, 1:22.63.

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

FIRST ROUND RESULTS

AMERICAN ZONE, GROUP TWO

Colombia 5, Puerto Rico 0
Ecuador 5, Barbados 0

EURO-AFRICA ZONE, GROUP ONE

Israel 3, Norway 2

Where's Mario? Leafs Win

The Associated Press

When Mario isn't magnificent, the Pittsburgh Penguins can look merely average.

But they didn't even look that good in a 4-1 loss to the Maple Leafs in Toronto.

"Not very good, not very good," Mario Lemieux said, reviewing his performance in the game Monday night.

The National Hockey League's leading scorer was a mere shadow of himself. As a result, the Penguins were overshadowed by the Maple Leafs — particularly in the special teams department.

Toronto scored on three of its eight power-play chances while its penalty killers limited Pittsburgh's potent power play to one goal on eight chances.

"The power play didn't do the job, and same for the penalty killing," Lemieux said. "So we have to improve in those categories."

The last eight minutes of the second period played a significant role in the outcome of the Toronto-Pittsburgh game.

Pittsburgh went on a five-minute power play at 12:26 because Dave Ellett was ejected for high-sticking Bryan Smolinski.

The Pittsburgh power play clicked when Dmitri Mironov beat Felix Potvin in goal with a point shot at 13:42 to tie the game, 1-1. After that, it was all downhill for the Penguins as Glen Murray put his team in a hole with consecutive penalties.

NHL ROUNDUP

Canadiens 3, Sharks 0 In Montreal, Pierre Turgeon's third-period power-play goal broke a scoreless tie and led the Canadiens past the Sharks.

Martin Rucinsky added an empty-net goal, his 20th of the season, with 1:07 left, and Turgeon scored his second of the game, also into an empty net, with 19 seconds remaining.

Senators 4, Islanders 1 Tom Chorske scored twice and Damian Rhodes stopped 29 shots as visiting Ottawa beat New York and won consecutive games for the first time since October. The last time the Senators won consecutive games occurred Oct. 22-26 when they strung together three victories.

Pavol Demitra and Dave Archibald each scored their second goal of the season for the Senators, who won at Montreal on Saturday and are 3-7-1 since Jacques Martin took over as head coach on Jan. 23.

DOONESBURY

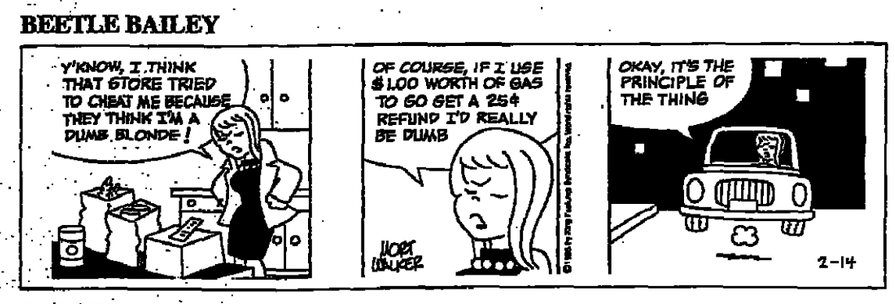
WIZARD of ID

PEANUTS

CALVIN AND HOBBES

GARFIELD

BEETLE BAILEY



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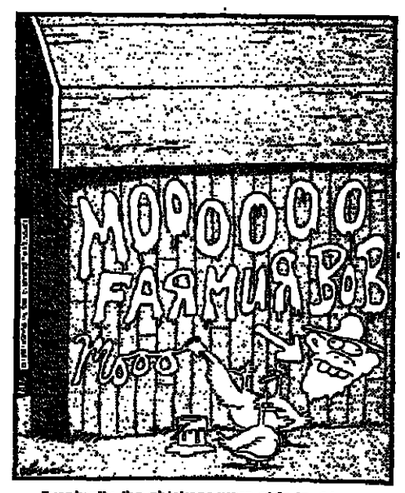
THE FAR SIDE



Eventually, the chickens were able to drive a wedge between Farmer Bob and Lulu.

OBSERVER

Sex Objects Revisited

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — John Updike's fascinating New Yorker piece on Lana Turner takes me back to the age when Hollywood unashamedly viewed women as sex objects. Clara Bow, advertised as "the 'it' girl," was a bit before my time, but I always understood that her "itness" was supposed to be sex appeal.

In the 1930s there was "the blonde bombshell," also known as Jean Harlow, a Midwestern lass with a fetching hip-swinging walk and the voice of a stevedore. Ann Sheridan, who loved Ronald Reagan in "King's Row," was marketed as "the oomph girl," which didn't work, probably because the only boudoir activity suggested by "oomph" is punching a pillow.

Hedy Lamarr was imported from Europe after a European film titled "Ecstasy" exposed her briefly, out of focus and nude.

Lana Turner, the subject of Updike's essay, was marketed as "the sweater girl" and constantly photographed with her noble bosom straining against sweaters too small for it.

□

For a long time, though a tireless moviegoer in those days, I had no physical response to these screen sirens, but I kept quiet about it. Other men emerged from sex-goddess movies slapping their thighs, crying "Hot doggedy!" and emitting similar signals of inflamed passion.

Not wishing to be thought deficient in sexual energy, I kept quiet about my indifference to movie sex goddesses. The trouble, I later learned, was that they were lifeless. They came across as compounds of cosmetics, overpriced wardrobes, excessive hairdressing and ridiculously perfect teeth. They were not women. They were constructions.

It was in the late 1940s that the scales fell from my eyes. Several of us had gone to one of those little out-of-the-way theaters that had once specialized in "Ecstasy." The movie this night was an Italian flick titled "Open City."

□

Anna Magnani walked onscreen, and I immediately realized that until that instant I had never seen a real woman on the screen.

I suddenly felt the way other men professed to feel when looking at Hollywood's sex-goddess constructions. What a thrilling moment in the annals of moviegoing. Here was a real woman. To Hollywood's sex-goddess designers, she must have looked a horror.

She seemed to have no makeup. There were dark circles under her eyes. Her hair was a mess, her dress something out of a Salvation Army thrift shop, her body hopeless by Hollywood standards. She was the real thing: a real live woman on the movie screen. Magnani was a plausible woman; Hedy Lamarr was not. One could imagine an evening with Anna Magnani. An evening with Hedy Lamarr was inconceivable.

I have since concluded that the sex goddesses were really designed to excite women with dreams of the stunning beauty and desirability they could acquire if they really applied themselves to it, spent several thousand dollars on elegant clothes and dieted down to chicken bones. If men chose to believe the product sexy, it was a box-office bonus.

New York Times Service

Count Bass D: Rap for People Who Like Music

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Dwight Farrell a/k/a Count Bass D is one of those rare rappers who is a musician too, and he lamented to Musician magazine: "We've been trying to get girls and ride around in Mercedes-Benzes without making good music. We apologize for that."

Bass D's first album "Pre-Life Crisis" (Work/Sony), a rap record for people who don't like rap, features breezy horn lines over his own drums, bass and keyboards. Riffs infer blues, jazz, bossa nova, gospel and funk music. His raps are hard-hitting but mellifluous, minimum-expletive and laugh-sprinkled. There is a macho threat to make you "as frustrated as Michael Jordan tryin' to play baseball," a loser's dirge about being "so broke I can't even pay you no mind" and a reverbed round from "Frère Jacques."

The music press approves.

Billboard: ". . . free-jazz spirit meets unique hip-hop vision." Interview: "A swinging feeling that evokes the sprit, if not the complexity of his namesake." The DJ Times: "He fuses his goofy world view with a cool sound." Rap Sheet: "Bass D comes just right with a chilled out flow added with rhyme vocab that makes you want more." Spin: "The Count might yet become a full-fledged member of hip-hop's aristocracy."

The son of a West Indian evangelist, Bass D, now 22, grew up in the Bronx, Boston, Florida and Canton, Ohio, where, at the age of four, he glommed on a drum set during a church service: "I wasn't Buddy Rich but I was keeping a beat. It was like a cute novelty thing."

Called to England on church and family business, his father yanked him out of the fourth grade and took him along. He stayed with an "auntie," which he pronounces "ohntie," a British accent suddenly replacing his New Yorkese. He learned keyboard rudiments there when he "basically spent two months sitting at her piano," and he dedicates his album to "Auntie Gwen" and a list of family names he wants to be "directly linked to me forever."

There was a bass vacancy in the high school band. The teacher was "'like, well, I'll teach you how to play bass.' People always challenged me as a kid. I learned the piano after the church organist left and somebody said I should be able to fill in. I always tried hard to live up to the challenge."

He already knew he wanted to be a musician after he first sat down at the drums. He learned musical rules while attending the Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, Washington, a boarding school, on scholarship. From there, he went to Middle Tennessee State University in Nashville, where he quickly got bored. Learning more rules did not interest him, he wanted to learn to break them.

While hosting a rap show on MTSU's TV station, he used the sophisticated hardware in its Mass Communications department to complete a demo tape. There aren't too many people dedicated to hip hop in that bastion of singing country music "hats," and he became an off-beat celebrity in the town a/k/a Cashville.

Oh yes, his name: "Count Basie was considered a gentleman. He was cool and his band was always tight. The 'D' is for Dwight, for DJ, and because I play drums. I consider myself a gentleman and I try to make my music tight."

On the negative side, one rock critic wrote that D's timing and delivery are "slightly off," and another said his grooves were "not gritty enough." But he was on and plucky recently holding forth on a number of subjects in the lobby of a small hotel in Montmartre.

Jazz: "Jazz is supposed to be about having new ideas, but the only people the jazz guys really support are the ones who are doing the same thing as Bird, Monk and Miles. It's hard to have respect for your elders when you see that their minds are shut off. I don't think jazz can be really new any more unless it incorporates at least some elements of hip-hop."

Rap: "Rap is the music of the hip-hop culture. Rap is to hip-hop what the Grateful Dead was to hippies."

Christian Rose

Bass D, hard-hitting, mellifluous, minimum-expletive rap.

Hip-hop: "The hip-hop culture is in the process of being destroyed. It used to be about who had the newest ideas; the most to say; who made the best music; the most original grafitti; who could find the most original dance grooves for a party. Now it's all about the hardest, the meanest, the baddest; about how expensive your tennis shoes or your jeans are.

"The girls have to be foxy now, anything else doesn't really matter. If Aretha Franklin stepped out on the scene now, she probably would not get a record deal. They'd say, 'You got a nice voice but you're too fat.' Before it was about being original. Now it's about guys running around with gold chains driving a Lexus being ripped off by record companies, and they're perfectly content to be living with their mother at the age of 25."

Art: "I went to the Louvre the other day to look at the Mona Lisa. Frankly, I felt a little cheated. I mean, what's so special? But then I decided to defer my judgement. You can't say the Mona Lisa is no big deal if you don't know more about where it was made, when and by who. I wish people would do the same thing with me. You should hear me before you say 'all that rap is garbage.'"

The music business "has almost ruined me as a musician. It's just about taken my life. I'm like this bottle of Volvic mineral water as far as record company executives are concerned. They treat people like a product, they expect you to act like a product. And if you don't, then you're a 'difficult artist.' These guys are only in hip-hop because it's selling. They don't really like it. I've been jumping through hoops for them and still they mess with me."

Why white kids buy rap records: "Because it doesn't beat around the bush. It has something to say and it says it. It's in your face. Hip-hop is the only place they're getting honest views from."

Paris: "We were four black guys driving in a new car, and a cop pulled us over. We hadn't done anything wrong, the car was in good running order and I've never been arrested. He didn't even apologize. Don't you find something wrong about that? People don't like it when we come out and say we don't like the police. But what do you want me to do, write songs about eating grapes?"

PEOPLE

HERE'S how **Karen Finley** suggests celebrating Valentine's Day: Call ex-lovers and hang up on them, and dash to the supermarket in a heart costume for Oreos, Ring Dings and a quart of beer. Finley, in case your cultural memory is short, is the "performance artist" whose fondness for smearing her naked body with warm chocolate in public places inspired a revolt by conservatives unhappy with using taxpayers' money to underwrite her "art."

□

Tom Selleck is trying to bring back his old neighborhood in California's San Fernando Valley. The "Magnum, P.I." star, his father and two brothers are demolishing a boarded-up automobile plant in a run-down, crime-ridden section of Van Nuys and building a $100 million shopping complex. "Maybe we can change some of the personality of the neighborhood," the 51-year-old actor said. "We're not in business just for civic purposes. But the valley is where we grew up, and with all of Dad's experience in the valley, it seemed a good fit."

□

Ralph Lauren and **Tommy Hilfiger** received top honors at the Council of Fashion Designers of America's 15th annual awards gala, while actress **Lauren Bacall** and designer **Hubert de Givenchy** were celebrated for lives of style and achievement. In a ceremony at Lincoln Center in New York, Lauren was named Womenswear Designer of the Year and Hilfiger was named Menswear Designer of the Year. **Suzy Menkes** of the International Herald Tribune was given the **Eugenia Sheppard** Award for Fashion Journalism.

□

Susan Sarandon doffed her recent movie role as a nun and resumed cult idol status as co-star of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." Sarandon shimmied and shook to the 1975 movie's popular "Time Warp" tune in a ceremony honoring her as the Hasty Pudding "Woman of the Year" at Harvard University. "This has exorcised every ounce of nun I had left in me," Sarandon said, referring to her most recent role as a spiritual adviser to a condemned killer in "Dead Man Walking," for which she received a best actress Oscar nomination. Flanked by two Harvard men in drag, Sarandon was driven through Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in a convertible in a procession led by a llama. The pudding pot award is given annually by the Hasty Pudding Theatricals at Harvard to performers who have made a "lasting and impressive contribution to the world of entertainment."

□

German supermodel **Claudia Schiffer**, 25, says there's more to life than modeling. Reputed to be the highest-paid in her profession, she said at the Australian launch of her new fitness videos that she has realized all her modeling dreams. Her videos sold a million copies in the first week of their U.S. release.

OSCAR NOMINATIONS

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — "Braveheart," actor-director Mel Gibson's battlefield epic, captured a leading 10 Academy Award nominations Tuesday, including best picture.

It will be up against "Apollo 13," "Babe," "Sense and Sensibility," and Italy's "The Postman" for the year's best movie.

Massimo Troisi was nominated for best actor in "The Postman," the first posthumous lead acting selection in 20 years. The actor, who died at age 41 only 12 hours after filming ended, also shared a screenwriting credit with four co-writers of the movie.

Also nominated for best actor were Nicolas Cage in "Leaving Las Vegas," Richard Dreyfuss in "Mr. Holland's Opus," Anthony Hopkins in "Nixon" and Sean Penn in "Dead Man Walking."

Emma Thompson was nominated for best actress for "Sense and Sensibility," and for writing the film's script — an Oscar first for an actress. She faces Susan Sarandon in "Dead Man Walking," Elisabeth Shue in "Leaving Las Vegas," Sharon Stone in "Casino" and Meryl Streep in "The Bridges of Madison County."

"Apollo 13" collected nine nominations and "Babe" and "Sense and Sensibility" each got seven. The best picture nomination for "The Postman" was the first foreign-language selection in the top category since "Cries and Whispers" in 1973.

Some films once considered favorites did poorly in the voting by the 5,043 voters of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. "The American President" collected just one nomination, as did "The Bridges of Madison County" and "Casino."

Reuters

Gibson in "Braveheart," and Stone in "Casino."

Even though "Leaving Las Vegas" was not picked for best picture, as was widely expected, director Mike Figgis was nominated for best director. He faces Gibson, "Babe's" Chris Noonan, "The Postman's" Michael Radford and the actor Tim Robbins, who directed "Dead Man Walking."

The supporting acting nominees are first-time Oscar honorees: James Cromwell in "Babe," Ed Harris in "Apollo 13," Brad Pitt in "12 Monkeys," Tim Roth in "Rob Roy" and Kevin Spacey in "The Usual Suspects."

Joan Allen was nominated for best supporting actress for "Nixon," as was Kathleen Quinlan for "Apollo 13," Mira Sorvino in "Mighty Aphrodite," Mare Winningham for "Georgia" and Kate Winslet for "Sense and Sensibility."

The Netherlands' "Antonia's Line" was nominated for best foreign language film, where it faces Sweden's "All Thing's Fair," Algeria's "Dust of Life," Brazil's "O Quatrilho" and Italy's "The Star Maker."

Troisa's posthumous nomination for the 68th annual awards puts the late Italian actor in select Oscar company. The last posthumous best actor nominee was Peter Finch, who won in 1976 for "Network." Other posthumous nominees include James Dean, Spencer Tracy and, for best supporting actor, Sir Ralph Richardson.

Woody Allen, nominated for writing "Mighty Aphrodite," tied filmmaker Billy Wilder for most career nominations for screenplay, with 12.

In addition to picture and directing, "Braveheart" was nominated for cinematography, costumes, editing, makeup, original score, sound, sound effects editing and original screenplay.

WEATHER

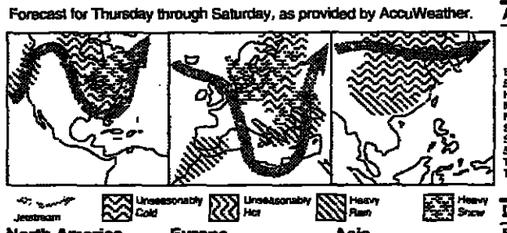
Europe

	Today High C/F	Today Low C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low C/F
Algarve	14/57	12/53 r	14/57	8/46 r
Amsterdam	3/37	2/35 r	8/43	2/35 pc
Ankara	7/44	3/37 sn	9/48	0/32 r
Athens	13/55	7/44 sh	13/55	8/46 r
Barcelona	14/57	9/48 c	11/52	4/39 c
Belgrade	5/41	0/32 r	4/39	-4/25 c
Berlin	3/37	1/34 r	3/37	-3/27 c
Brussels	3/37	1/34 r	5/41	0/32 pc
Budapest	1/34	-1/31 sn	2/35	-3/27 c
Copenhagen	-1/31	-4/25 sn	0/32	-8/22 pc
Costa Del Sol	14/57	12/53 c	14/57	8/46 r
Dublin	8/46	1/34 pc	9/48	4/39 pc
Edinburgh	6/43	3/37 c	8/46	6/43 pc
Florence	9/48	3/37 pc	9/48	1/34 pc
Frankfurt	1/34	-1/31 sn	2/35	-4/25 pc
Geneva	3/37	0/32 r	2/35	-3/27 sn
Helsinki	-7/20	-9/16 sn	-6/22	-12/11 c
Istanbul	8/46	6/43 r	11/52	4/39 c
Las Palmas	23/73	13/55 s	23/73	14/57 s
Lisbon	13/55	10/50 t	14/57	8/46 t
London	6/43	2/35 r	7/44	3/37 pc
Madrid	11/52	7/44 sn	10/50	-2/29 c
Milan	7/44	1/34 pc	7/44	-1/31 pc
Moscow	-7/20	-11/13 sn	-4/25	-9/16 c
Munich	3/37	-1/31 r	2/35	-4/25 sn
Nice	13/55	2/35 pc	10/50	2/35 pc
Oslo	-6/22	-11/13 pc	-4/25	-9/16 sn
Mallorca	13/55	10/50 c	11/52	6/43 c
Paris	5/41	2/35 r	6/43	1/34 c
Prague	1/34	-2/29 sn	0/32	-5/24 sn
Reykjavik	3/37	2/35 r	5/41	2/35 pc
Rome	8/46	3/37 c	8/46	1/34 c
St. Petersburg	-9/16	-11/13 sn	-8/18	-14/7 sn
Stockholm	-4/25	-9/16 sn	-3/27	-8/18 pc
Strasbourg	3/37	1/34 r	2/35	-3/27 sn
Tallinn	-7/20	-9/16 sn	-6/22	-12/11 c
Venice	7/44	3/37 r	7/44	1/34 pc
Vienna	2/35	0/32 r	2/35	-3/27 sn
Warsaw	-1/31	-5/24 sn	-2/29	-6/22 sn
Zurich	2/35	0/32 r	2/35	-3/27 sn

Oceania

Auckland	26/79	16/64 c	26/79	17/62 pc
Sydney	24/75	18/61 c	27/80	19/66 pc

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



North America
Another blast of frigid arctic air will envelop the eastern half of the country at the end of the week. There will be snow, or at least flurries, in many areas. The West Coast will be dry and tranquil later this week, but Seattle, Portland and Vancouver may turn rainy by the weekend.

Europe
Breezy and cool in London; a few passing showers possible Friday into Saturday. Dry and chilly in Paris Thursday through Saturday. Rome will also turn out dry and chilly, but Athens will have some rain Thursday into Friday. Lisbon and Madrid will have some rain on Thursday.

Asia
Very cold air will spill southward across much of eastern China, and eventually to Japan. Beijing and Seoul will be windy and quite cold Thursday through Saturday. Shanghai will also be chilly. Tokyo will have rain Thursday, then cold weather. Hong Kong will be mild, but with possible rains.

Middle East

	Today High C/F	Today Low C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low C/F
Abu Dhabi	22/71	14/57 pc	24/75	14/57 s
Beirut	20/68	13/55 pc	18/64	12/53 c
Cairo	22/71	13/55 pc	22/71	9/48 pc
Damascus	15/58	5/41 pc	14/57	4/39 s
Jerusalem	17/62	9/48 pc	15/59	8/46 pc
Luxor	32/89	12/53 s	34/93	8/46 s
Riyadh	24/75	11/52 s	23/73	14/57 pc

Africa

	Today High C/F	Today Low C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low C/F
Algiers	14/57	11/52 c	14/57	8/46 sh
Cape Town	17/62	10/50 f	13/55	10/61 c
Casablanca	14/57	9/48 pc	13/55	5/41 sh
Harare	22/71	4/39 s	24/75	7/44 s
Lagos	30/86	27/80 pc	31/88	27/80 pc
Nairobi	25/77	9/48 pc	27/80	12/53 pc
Tunis	14/57	11/52 c	15/59	7/44 r

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1996

Asia

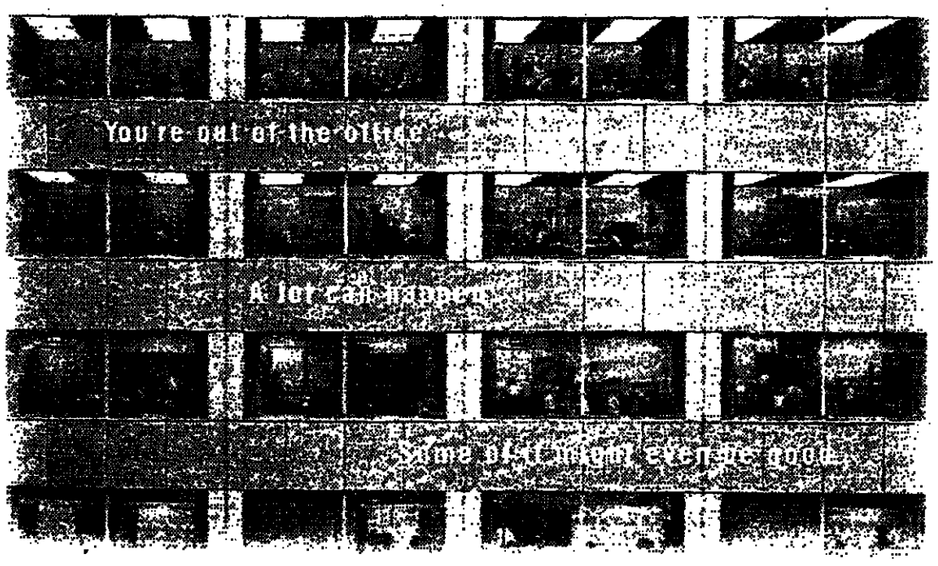
	Today High C/F	Today Low C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low C/F
Bangkok	34/93	22/71 pc	33/91	25/79 pc
Beijing	14/57	3/37 s	10/50	1/34 r
Hong Kong	23/73	15/59 s	22/71	15/59 pc
Manila	31/88	23/73 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
New Delhi	25/77	15/59 s	28/82	13/55 pc
Seoul	13/55	2/35 pc	12/53	1/34 s
Shanghai	17/62	9/48 c	16/61	9/48 r
Singapore	28/82	25/77 pc	28/84	25/77 pc
Taipei	24/75	15/59 pc	25/77	15/61 s
Tokyo	13/55	8/46 r	17/62	4/39 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	29/84	17/62 s	28/82	18/64 pc
Caracas	28/82	18/64 pc	29/84	18/64 pc
Lima	27/80	21/70 pc	26/79	21/70 pc
Mexico City	22/71	5/43 s	22/71	7/44 pc
Rio de Janeiro	28/82	23/73 c	28/82	23/73 pc
Santiago	29/84	10/50 s	32/89	14/57 pc

North America

Anchorage	0/32	-9/16 pc	-1/31	-9/16 pc
Atlanta	11/52	2/35 pc	12/53	8/43 pc
Boston	-7/20	-11/13 s	1/34	3/27 pc
Chicago	0/32	-4/25 c	3/37	-5/24 sn
Denver	17/62	0/32 pc	8/46	-6/22 pc
Detroit	-2/29	-9/16 sf	-1/31	-3/27 sf
Honolulu	27/80	17/62 s	27/80	18/66 pc
Houston	18/64	11/52 pc	21/70	12/53 sh
Los Angeles	24/75	13/55 pc	23/73	13/55 pc
Miami	21/70	12/53 s	23/71	18/61 s
Minneapolis	-1/31	-9/16 pc	-1/31	-9/16 c
Montreal	-12/11	-20/-3 sf	-9/16	-15/5 pc
Nassau	25/77	18/64 pc	26/79	19/66 pc
New York	-3/27	-9/22 s	1/34	-2/29 pc
Phoenix	21/70	12/53 sh	23/73	12/53 s
San Fran.	23/73	11/52 s	22/71	12/53 pc
Seattle	15/59	4/39 pc	14/57	1/34 pc
Toronto	-7/20	-13/9 c	-4/25	-8/18 c
Vancouver	13/55	3/37 pc	12/53	-1/64 pc
Washington	0/32	-4/25 s	1/34	-1/31 pc



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Hungary*	00*800-01111
Iceland*	800 9001
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Norway	800-190-11
Poland†*	00-0-800-111-1111
Portugal†	05017-1-288
Romania*	01-800-4288
Russia*† (Moscow)	155-5042
Slovak Rep.*†	00-42-000-101
Spain◆	900-99-00-11
Sweden	020-795-611
Switzerland*	0-800-550011
Turkey*	00-800-12277
Ukraine†	8◊100-11
United Kingdom	0800-89-0011
	0500-89-0011

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Israel	177-100-2727
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Syria	8-801
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